



Illinois Flag Commission Submissions

1

Relationship to Illinois

Proud Illinoisian. Born, raised and returned. Grew up seeing the Sears Tower out of my bedroom window and now live amongst the corn and soy. I have the rough translation of Illinois from the native Algonquin "plain speaker" tattooed with the state's outline on me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is a diverse and divided state. The majority being in the Chicagoland, and the minority disliking it. There is no iconography that will unite it. That's why a simple flag with the state's name in bold letters is the only option. It is the one thing we can all agree on, it's Illinois.



2

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Vincent Kouri and I was born, and raised in Peoria, Illinois for the past 21 years. I come from a family that has lived in Peoria since immigrating to this country over a hundred years ago, and have valiantly admired and served the United States for preserving our freedoms, and protecting their loved ones. I am a recent college graduate from Saint Louis University, but I intend to remain in the city I grew up in.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Quebec-style design represents the state's origins, where French explorers discovered, chartered, and documented the Illinois river, its prairies, its history, and helped with the foundation of the many towns and cities in Illinois. The ten stars on the top, and the ten stars on the bottom represent the ten northern and ten southern states upon Illinois' inception as a free state. The red star in the middle represents Illinois and is in the center to recognize unity amongst all Illinoisans.

3

Relationship to Illinois

Have visited and driven through the state several times; I go to university near by in Indiana (Notre Dame)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Design: Inspired by Springfield and Centennial flags, representing Illinois' identity with simplicity and unity. Union of Stars: State Motto; Lincoln's legacy; National Union; State Sov. Old Glory Blue: Reflects national symbolism and Illinois' rivers. White Field: Represents abolition, honesty, and simplicity. Central Star Arrow: Symbolizes progress, innovation, and state sovereignty. Tricolor Fesse: Represents Illinois' three regions. American-esque: Reflects Illinois as a microcosm of US

4

Relationship to Illinois

Have been through there / driven through Illinois several times; go to university nearby in Indiana (Notre Dame)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Design: Inspired by Springfield and Centennial flags, representing Illinois' identity with simplicity and unity. "Union" of Stars: State Motto; Lincoln's legacy; National Union; State Sov. Old Glory Blue: Reflects national symbolism and Illinois' rivers. White Field: Represents abolition, honesty, and simplicity. Central Star Arrow: Symbolizes progress, innovation, and state sovereignty. American-esque: Reflects Illinois as a microcosm of US

5

Relationship to Illinois

I am a native Chicagoan (raised in South Shore and Hyde Park) now serving as a professor at Pratt Institute of Art and Design, and I wanted to apply principles of design we teach to the new flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design is minimalist in order to be legible, easily reproduced by students, and distinctive from other flags. It has a blue quarter-circle in the top right corner, representing Lake Michigan. The left and bottom borders are a matching blue, representing the Mississippi River. What could vary is the color of the land, this design is stark white, a second could be green representing agriculture, and a third using orange to mirror the official colors of the University of Illinois.

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Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 poppy seeds represent Illinois being the 21st state of the Union. The blue and green backgrounds represent 75% of the state border comprising of water and 25% land. The hot dog with toppings represents the agriculture and meat processing industries from the state vital in feeding our nation and the world.



7

Relationship to Illinois

As a lifelong resident of Illinois, growing up in Lake County and now living in Chicago, I have witnessed firsthand the state's evolution and the contributions of its people. My deep-rooted connection to Illinois has shaped my understanding of its history, culture, and values. This flag design is a reflection of my appreciation for the state's unique character and my desire to create a symbol that unites and inspires its citizens.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Viridian green/white. Left side: a camelot pink star represents Illinois' status as a star state and its importance to the nation. A cogwheel symbolizes the state's industrial development and commitment to innovation. Right side: a wheat wreath represents Illinois' agricultural heritage. The flag's design is intended to evoke a sense of harmony, balance, and progress, reflecting Illinois' rich history and its bright future.

8

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for 17 years, moving from South Bend, IN to Chicago to attend college at Columbia College Chicago and to find a better life. Growing up in Indiana, opportunities for growth and expression were limited. I didn't have access to art, design, film, and culture and that's exactly what I found in Illinois. I found a better life. I found inspiration everywhere I looked. And I also found my wife. Illinois literally saved me and put me on the path FORWARD toward a better future.



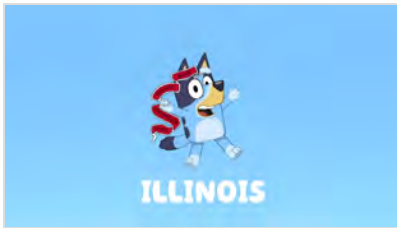
Explain the meaning behind your flag

I call this design "Forward". It's a vertical bisected design divided into two, as in Illinois' two greatest assets; it's land and our waterways. The 4 Blue Stripes represent those waterways; Lake Michigan, The Mississippi River, The Wabash River, and The Ohio River. The Red Star stands for our great major cities across Illinois; Chicago, Springfield, Joliet, Peoria, Bloomington, and Champaign. It's all on a White Field as a callback to the original Illinois Flag; purity and innocence.

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Relationship to Illinois

I don't have much of a relationship with Illinois, I just always wanted to participate in a state flag design competition. I am trying to think of something that I have related to Illinois, but I don't have anything and I'm not going to lie and say I have family there.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue-heeler cartoon dog represents the below-average rate of dogs in Illinois and the need for more. It also represents Australia's looming takeover of young America's minds. The blue background represents Illinois's blue sky. The word "Illinois" written in Hello Headline font represents Illinois and the clouds. The scroll has the words "State Sovereignty, National Bluey" written on it, which serves as a tribute to the old flag.

10

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

white upper stripe and a viridian green lower stripe. Four stars represent Greater Chicago, Central Illinois, Southern Illinois, and Northern Illinois. The white stripe symbolizes the state's commitment to justice, equality, and peace. The viridian green stripe represents Illinois' lush landscapes, abundant forests/natural beauty. The flag's design is intended to evoke a sense of harmony, balance, and progress, reflecting Illinois' rich history and its bright future.

11

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for 17 years, moving from South Bend, IN to Chicago to attend college at Columbia College Chicago and to find a better life. Growing up in Indiana, opportunities for growth and expression were limited. I didn't have access to art, design, film, and culture and that's exactly what I found in Illinois. I found a better life. I found inspiration everywhere I looked. And I also found my wife. Illinois literally saved me and made me PROGRESS to my better more hopeful future.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I call this design "Progress". It's a upward diagonal tricolor design. The three divisions representing the three regions of Illinois; Northern Illinois in white, Central Illinois in blue, Southern Illinois in sky blue. The Red Star for the Illinois entry into US statehood in 1818 and each point of the star is for; The Black Hawk War, The first state to ratify the 13th amendment, The Illinois Michigan Canal, 1933 World's Fair, It's Nuclear History, and it's presidents Lincoln, Grant & Obama.

12

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Champaign, IL and was moved to Monticello, IL at a young age. I still live there as of today.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In this flag, I have a light blue stripe on top to represent the Chicago flag, a dark blue stripe on bottom and as the circle outline to represent the Springfield flag, a violet flower to represent our state flower, and a pair of white oak leaves to represent our state tree. I would like this flag to be called the Violet Banner.

13

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

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14

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life, both in the suburbs of Chicago and downstate. I went to college in Michigan, and then fell in love with another Illinoisan, so of course, we moved back here to raise our family. I've traveled to nearly every state and many countries, and I believe the Chicago is by far the most underappreciated city in the world. Anyone who visits for the first time discovers how it outclasses more popular destinations.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The SHIELD: 1) honors our original flag, 2) embodies the stylized shape of our state, and 3) represents Illinois' commitment to defending liberty as the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment. The RED STRIPES are both a nod to the original flag and a subtle "IL" for those in the know. The RED STAR is a tribute to Chicago and its own great flag. The BLUE field symbolizes the waters of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi that border our state. The GOLD field represents us as the Prairie State.



15

Relationship to Illinois

30yr old Chicago resident, IL-barred Intellectual Property Attorney. Attended the Univ. of Illinois (UIUC). Work at a Chicago law firm. Published North American Vexillological Association journal author & flag history hobbyist. I'm not a graphic designer & welcome all revisions to my designs. Color shades can be changed. All materials used in designs are custom made or revised from the public domain.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue field=Lake Mich. Blue line=Miss. river. Vertical hang mimics river & lake location. White line=liberty; forms arrow in corner for commitment to progress.

Orange=prairie state sunrise for hope & work ethic. State animal whitetail deer, 6pt antler for 6pt Chicago star, cultural hub; gold kernels for soybeans/corn; bowtie for Lincoln; arrowhead for Native American roots & mimics IL shape. Negative space under deer=car for first US race & end of first US highway. Kernels+bowtie=21 (21st state).

16

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for 17 years, moving from South Bend, IN to Chicago to attend college at Columbia College Chicago and to find a better life. Growing up in Indiana, opportunities for growth and expression were limited. I didn't have access to art, design, film, and culture and that's exactly what I found in Illinois. I found a better life. I found inspiration everywhere I looked. And I also found my wife. THE LAND OF LINCOLN literally saved me and put me on the path toward a better future.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is titled "The Land of Lincoln". It's a vertical tricolor design like France's flag with them being the first European settlers in the region. The 3 sections for the 3 regions of Illinois; North in blue, Central in white, and Southern in red. The White Star on Blue is for Chicago, the economic power of the state on the blue of Lake Michigan. The Sky Blue Band on White is for our waterways that opened trade to the state. White Star on Red for our State Capital and our rich resources.

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Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

With the colors taken from the Great Seal, I wished for gold to represent the wealth and abundance of the state as well as the fall harvest of wheat, corn and soy our state is known for. The collection of twenty one stars represent the state's union admission, styled after the great city of Chicago, laying on feild of white to convey peace and serenity. The deep blue represents Illinois's history with the many waters that surround it, leading to its rise as a cultural hub and industrial titan.



18

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Illinois on the South Side
Moved to Peoria in 2017
Been here my entire life as well been able to raise to two beautfil children with my wife in this state. Illinois is my forever home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have seen much of Illinois coming from the city to the central, all the way down to the south of illinois, and have experienced in 42 years much this state has to offer. This flag signfies and ecompasses all of Illinois with each of the stars from the state flower of the violet to the representation of chicago in the red (even for the state bird too) and white, and showing the agriculture history with gold, and the beatiful landscapes with the green.



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Relationship to Illinois

I

Explain the meaning behind your flag

You



20

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived there most of my life. I was born in Joliet and lived in nearby Channahon and Morris. I have a lot of fond memories of living in that state, and I would like to return the favor.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is based off the Illinois Centennial Flag by Wallace Rice. The white represents peace as well as a bright future for Illinois. The blue represents our state's major waterways (the vertical stripe representing the Mississippi River and the horizontal stripe representing the Illinois River). The 21 stars reference Illinois being the 21st state in the Union. The three fleurs-de-lis represent Illinois' history as a French colony as well as representing Illinois' past, present, and future.

21

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong resident of Illinois and have been able to see the natural beauty our state has been given. I feel especially proud to be in Illinois because so many other states around us have begun diminishing the rights of every person while we remain a bastion of liberty. Especially as a trans girl, I'm very glad to have continuous access to any service I may need without fear of losing them.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The gold border represents our own 'amber waves of grain' since Illinois produces (corn!) The Red arrow cross is a Native symbol of friendship & coalition between peoples, and it uses the same red as the National flag. The blue circle & stripe represent the waters of the Mississippi & Illinois rivers, and additionally blue is our perseverance in improving our state & our commitment to being a place where every person has rights and choices. And then the state emblem to keep a part of the old flag.

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Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is a good state because It Has Chicago (although some parts are not good in chicago) I Like the tourist attractions and that's what makes it famous

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue Stripe (Top): Represents the state's strength, loyalty, and vigilance. White Stripe (Middle): The star could symbolize Illinois' unity or prominence within the United States. The white color also represents peace and honesty. Green Stripe (Bottom): Suggests the state's agricultural heritage, growth, and prosperity. Star: representing leadership for illinois

23



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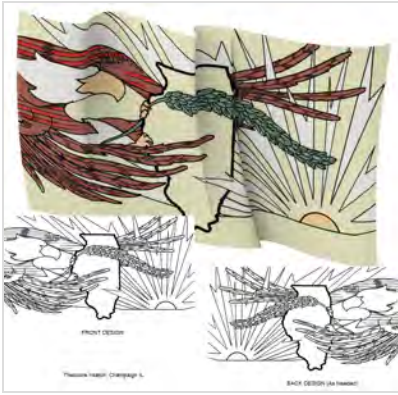
Relationship to Illinois

I am life long resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Flag contains 3 blue vertical bars to represent from left to right the Mississippi river, the Illinois river, and lake Michigan with the stars symbolizing Illinois being the 21st state to join the United States.

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Relationship to Illinois

As a native Illinoisian born and raised in Champaign, IL, I am still happy to call this state my home. Always guided by the strong values proud midwesterners uphold; dependability, loyalty and community to name just a few, it is an honor and privilege to offer my reinterpretation of the Illinois State Flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A modern considerate view of our traditional symbolism illustrated as both organic and technical, adding energy and motion while even at rest. A visual representation of our state vision and truth reflected back on the nation.

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Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago in 2012, shortly after graduating college, and have lived here ever since. The friends and loved ones I've found here have become a second family to me, and our relationships are deeply informed by the city. I'm also passionate about the outdoors, so I make an effort to experience and enjoy all the beautiful parks and natural features that Illinois has.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents the two halves of Illinois economy: white for Chicago (the White City of the Columbian Exposition), and gold for downstate agriculture. The blue represents the many waterways (especially Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River) that help power that economy. The cardinal (our state bird) in flight represents progress to a better future.

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Relationship to Illinois

Long-time resident since childhood, returned post-undergraduate for graduate and medical school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Centennial flag with the six-pointed Chicago star replacing the central star. References the ribbon on the current flag as red stripes bordering the central stripe.

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Relationship to Illinois

I am not a native of Illinois, but I have seen a plethora of Illinoisans online express their dissatisfaction with both the current flag of Illinois and random non-natives making ridiculous designs to replace it. I've taken inspiration and feedback from Illinoisans on design choices, state symbolism, and symbolism to avoid (notably overrepresentation of the Chicago area on the flag).



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois' diversity with a tricolor: Blue for the urban & industrious lakeside North; Yellow for the agricultural Central Illinois; and Green for the public lands & national parks of Southern Illinois. The eagle, inspired by the Illinois & US seals, symbolizes statehood with 21 feathers. The eagle's face & escutcheon designs are kept from the current flag. Corn & soybeans, the state's top crops, flank the eagle, emphasizing Illinois' agricultural strength.

29

Relationship to Illinois

My family has lived in and around Illinois for the last 100 years. I moved to the state from Missouri to escape their extremist agenda against queer people, POC, and women. This flag has multiple parts, all with distinctive meanings to the state, but what stands out to me is the shield from the state seal. The shield represents the defense of personal freedoms which is why I moved to this great state. The flag has a rising sun above the water, which is for the ability to start anew in the state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green for the abundant crops that built the foundation of the State. Blue is for the waterways and marsh that bring life to the land and define the borders of Illinois, and Gold is for the wealth that freedom brought to the state. The shield is adapted from the State Seal, with four stars representing the four waterways that define the state's boundaries and 15 strips in a radial pattern that represent the 15 original counties when the state was formed while also resembling crop rows.

30

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and have lived here for 77 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The twenty-one stars signify Illinois' status as the 21st state admitted to the United States. The six-pointed 'mullet' stars are a common sight in Chicago, The central star with the inscribed red mullet star represents Chicago's contributions to the state and the nation. The red, white and blue features represent the United States, and the green our state's contribution in agriculture, from corn and soybean production to the John Deere company, International Harvester and other agricultural inve



31

Relationship to Illinois

This is my second submission. I am not a native of Illinois, but I have seen a plethora of Illinoisans online express their dissatisfaction with both the current flag of Illinois and random non-natives making ridiculous designs to replace it. I've taken inspiration and feedback from Illinoisans on design choices, state symbolism, and symbolism to avoid (notably overrepresentation of the Chicago area on the flag).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This submission is very similar to my previous submission (Submission Image ID 28), with the notable inclusion of the iconic hat of Abraham Lincoln on the eagle as a nod to the 16th President.



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Relationship to Illinois

I currently live in Springfield and I work for the Illinois Department of Insurance. I've also met multiple state wide officials, state reps, and state senators. I also collect multiple flags at home and I collect multiple blue books.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is style from the German and Netherlands flag. Each color has a meaning and the flag goes north to south. The blue stands for the blue in Lake Michigan, the yellow stands for the yellow in corn in central Illinois, and the green stands for the green leaves in trees from the forests of southern Illinois. So the flag goes from North to South in Illinois and it's by nature.



33

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois. I was born and raised here. This is the state where I work and raise my family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green background color represents our State's beautiful prairies. The goblin represents the uplifting spirit of our citizens, always hungry to achieve our dreams and goals. The "State Seal Dish" represents our state's government and the guidance and support it provides. The state of Illinois that is being consumed represents the nourishment that this State provides to its people. The text simply displays what is true. *Please note that this is an obviously unserious submission.*



34

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home ever since I was born, being born in the state capital nonetheless, I've lived my life in a rural setting of Illinois and I can say I love this state. From the corn fields of the downstate to the high rises of Chicago, it's all home and I'm proud of it.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed this flag with all aspects of life in mind, I thought long and hard what do we all have, we all have the sky, this is where my inspiration comes from. The flag can be described as a Blue and Orange bicolor with three white seven pointed stars even spaced and centered. The blue and orange have a dual meaning with the colors representing a beautiful sky a hardworking Illinoisan might see at sunrise or Sunset on their commute. The blue also represents the purity and beauty of this state.

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Relationship to Illinois

Lifetime resident of Illinois (64 years)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Abraham Lincoln in front of the shaded year of statehood (1818).



36

Relationship to Illinois

Lifetime resident (64 years).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Shape of Illinois with year of statehood imbedded on a red background.



37

Relationship to Illinois

Most of my father's side of my family emigrated to the Chicagoland area in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and most made their home in Illinois. My father was raised in Gurnee and still regularly returns to visit old friends. I have lived in the Midwest my entire life and have enjoyed visiting Illinois many times. Whether it's walking the Magnificent Mile, driving past abundant fields, or stopping to take in the river bluffs and forests, Illinois is always a destination to remember.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue Bars: Parallel bars represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, with a bar representing the Illinois Waterway connecting them; creates an "I" when hung vertically. 7-pointed Star: Represents the state's evolution: the Mississippi culture, Illinois confederation, State of VA, NW Terr., IN Terr., IL Terr., and State of IL. Also represents the 7 letters of "Lincoln". 20 Stars: 10 northern and 10 southern states at time of statehood. Design: Creates a branding theme with Chicago's flag.

38

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Relationship to Illinois

Lifetime resident (64 years)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lincoln stovepipe hat with year of statehood (1818)

40

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Oak Park and River Forest. Lived 35 years in River Forest.

Currently reside in Downers Grove. Worked for Chicago-based advertising agencies including Leo Burnett. Founded own advertising agency in 1993 and sold it in 2006.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I strongly believe that understanding history is important for future generations, especially the history of the State of Illinois. To that end, my submission for the new State Flag of Illinois is a modern take on the original design. The name of our great state is displayed on top in large blue print. The bald eagle in flight beneath the name of our great state represents freedom, equality, and democracy. The State motto remains unchanged: State Sovereignty, National Union.



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Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for most of my life and I have a lot of fond memories living in that state. I am joining this competition to hopefully return the favor by giving it a new flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is a variant of another design that I have already submitted (ID: 20), so all of the things I described that flag with apply to this one as well; with the exception of the added gold stripe on the bottom which represents Illinois' vast farmlands which make up a good deal of our economic output.



42

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for almost 5 years now.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

An updated approach to represent the great state of Illinois. The red and blue being the same as that of our American flag to represent National Union. Illinois in the center as our State Sovereignty. Surrounded by the wheat of our farmlands and prairie lands as the prairie state. The stars representing our very own stars like our great cities, Abraham Lincoln, the first state to abolish slavery and the birthplace of some of the best inventions created like deep dish pizza of course!



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Relationship to Illinois

Lived in Illinois for nearly 5 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The wheat represents our farm land and prairie, being the prairie state. The stars represent Illinois' stars, like our cities, our inventions, and our lake front, which is also represented by the blue waves.



44

Relationship to Illinois

Lived in Illinois for nearly 5 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Our state seal front and center surrounded by the blue waves of Lake Michigan and the wheat and prairie of our prairie state. The stars representing our very own stars like our cities, our inventions like deep dish pizza of course!



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Relationship to Illinois

I'm a 4th generation Illinoisan and an Illinois resident for all 36 years of my life — growing up in Winfield, attending Wheaton schools, going to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for undergrad, University of Illinois at Chicago for grad school, living in Chicago for 7 years, and now residing in St. Charles. I'm fiercely loyal to Illinois and our local history, traditions, cuisine, sports teams, etc. It would be the honor of my life to play some part in this flag redesign process.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

For this submission I wanted to take the current flag and seal design and provide a stylistic update — maintaining the central eagle (with olive branch), blue water/sky, green ground, and sun, but doing so in a way that is more scalable and visually balanced. We maintain the date of statehood but drop the excessive text in the banner for less visual clutter.

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Relationship to Illinois

I am writing in my personal capacity as a proud resident of Illinois. I am also a former employee of members of the Illinois House and Senate, and currently a lobbyist representing an array of clients with business before state government.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I propose the state adopt the Illinois Centennial Flag as our new state flag. Designed by Wallace Rice, creator of the Chicago flag, this flag commemorates the ten northern states and ten southern states that were part of the Union in 1818.



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Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois except for the three years I was in the active Army stationed in Missouri and Texas. I am originally from Oswego. I graduated from NIU. I am a teacher at Genoa-Kingston Middle School. My wife and two daughters have lived in Rockford for the last 19 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's design is simplified to allow the colors and logo to be applied to many shirts, hats, and stickers. The blue top of the flag symbolizes Illinois' big blue skies, Lake Michigan, and other lakes and rivers. The bottom green section symbolizes the broad green horizon of Illinois' vast farms and cornfields. The gray letter "I" in the center symbolizes Illinois' initial, the skyscrapers of Chicago and other cities, and the many grain silos that dot our countryside.

48

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a 4th generation Illinoisan and an Illinois resident for all 36 years of my life — growing up in Winfield, attending Wheaton schools, going to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for undergrad, University of Illinois at Chicago for grad school, living in Chicago for 7 years, and now residing in St. Charles. I'm fiercely loyal to Illinois and our local history, traditions, cuisine, sports teams, etc. It would be the honor of my life to play some part in this flag redesign process.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

For this submission I chose to focus on the rising sun depicted behind the eagle in the current flag and seal. In simplifying the rays of light and reflecting them off the blue of Lake Michigan you get a six pointed star that connects to the iconic flag of Chicago. This idea of the rising sun and infinite horizon speaks to our best days still lying ahead of us as a state. It's a simple yet evocative visual that scales tremendously well and plays nicely in relation to other state flags.

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Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Coal City, Illinois which is about 60 miles south of Chicago. I graduated from Coal City High School in 2017. I went to Joliet Junior College and then transferred to Monmouth College in Monmouth, IL where I obtained my Bachelor's Degree. I have a major in History with a teaching license. I currently teach social studies classes at Hamilton High School in Hamilton, IL. Although I live in Iowa right on the Mississippi, I work in Illinois and most of my family still lives in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bar represents the mississippi river on the western border of the state. The gray represents the urban areas in the northeast part of the state, the yellow represents the agricultural history of the state with corn and soybeans, the green represents Illinois' dedication to clean energy with nuclear, solar, and wind and the state's designation as "'The Prairie State,'" and the four stars represent the four presidents who have called Illinois home: Lincoln, Grant, Reagan, and Obama.

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Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident from a small town (actually a village called Seatonville). Growing up we didn't have a lot of money so our vacations usually consisted of small day trips around the state, and those are some of my fondest memories. State parks, museums, and yet unexplored cities all filled my youth. Now, I have my own son and can't wait to explore even more with him.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Representing Illinois and the work of its people, the "Illinois Stake" stands firmly grounded in the center of the flag as Illinois does in the Midwest. While an abstraction of the shape of the state, it also symbolizes our work, the tools we use and what we make with them. The plow blade cuts the soil that yields the corn. The railroad spike holds the rail that the train rides. The shovel dredges the river that the barge travels. The steel frame supports the skyscraper that fills the city.

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Relationship to Illinois

I have cousins in Illinois and visit there quite so often so I made these flag designs for them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

top black stripe: the Willis Tower bottom black stripe: 360 Chicago black top hat: the Lincoln state 21 gold stars: Illinois as that 21st state White stripe: the Illinois Winter snow

52



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Central Illinois in the mid 90s. After going to school in 2005 to Boston for my Masters, I returned in 2008 to my adopted home. I have lived and worked here ever since. My wife is a University of Illinois alumna and my son is currently a student at the University of Illinois. At this point, I have lived in Illinois longer than any other state in the union.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three horizontal stripes represent the rivers Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash that form the natural borders of Illinois. The 21 stars represent Illinois is the 21st state. The fleur-de-lis represents that Illinois was once French territory, that the name of the state is a French spelling of a Native American term, and references the state slogan "Land of Lincoln" — the center image of the flag of Lincoln, UK is a fleur-de-lis. The colors copy Chicago's flag to represent it as our largest city.

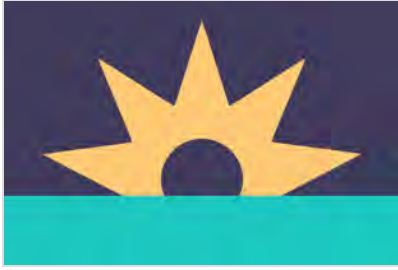
53

Relationship to Illinois

My mentor as a carpenter is from Illinois and taught me quite a bit about the state and its culture during the time I learned from him. My connection is indirect but is one that matters to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This 'Sun Spires' design is inspired by an aspect of the state seal, the sunrise over the lake in the background. All 3 of my submissions are color variants on this same design. The dark gray is symbolic of the state's historical coal industry as well as the black hawk war. The brass spires call to the wheats, grains, corn, and other yellow crops farmed in the state, as well as the blues and northern jazz movement. The teal is representative of Lake Michigan and many rivers.



54

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 1987.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag submission represents our 16th President Abraham Lincoln (Land of Lincoln). It also represents the Indigenous People of Illinois, who should be acknowledged as our first residents. The original seal is used as a historic marker.



55

Relationship to Illinois

My mentor as a carpenter taught me much about his home state of Illinois and well it may seem like a small connection, it's an important one to me

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This 'Sun Spires' design is inspired by an aspect of the state seal, the sunrise over the lake in the background. All 3 of my submissions are color variants on this same design. The dark gray is symbolic of the state's historical coal industry as well as the black hawk war. The brass spires call to the wheats, grains, corn, and other yellow crops farmed in the state, as well as the blues and northern jazz movement. The red is representative of the banner in the state seal



56

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong state resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

- Field of maize for Illinois' agricultural heritage-Diagonal navy blue stripe for the Illinois River and other waterways-Parallel white stripes for Illinois' role as the railroad hub of the nation-21 stars (21st state)--Center red star for our capital (same star as Springfield's flag)--18 5-pointed white stars for statehood year (1818)--2 6-pointed white stars for our major industrial centers of Chicagoland and Metro-East--Points of the white stars $(18 \times 5) + (2 \times 6) = 102$ counties



57

Relationship to Illinois

My mentor as a carpenter taught me much about his home state of Illinois and although it's a small connection, it's an important one to me

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This 'Sun Spires' design is inspired by an aspect of the state seal, the sunrise over the lake in the background. All 3 of my submissions are color variants on this same design. The dark gray is symbolic of the state's historical coal industry as well as the black hawk war. The brassy spires call to the wheats, grains, corn, and other yellow crops farmed in the state, as well as the blues and northern jazz movement. The red is representative of the banner on the state seal



58

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois since 1989. I lived in Cook County most of my life, except during school at Eastern Illinois University and now in Lake County. I worked on the 2020 Census as a Community Partnership Specialists that went all over LaSalle, Livingston, Marshall, Marshall, Woodford and Stark counties. I love our state and appreciate the effort to have the public give an option for a new flag. Our state is one of the best in the union and our flag should reflect that. Thank you.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to incorporate two flags of significance in Illinois history. For Illinois's first 100 years of statehood in 1918, Wallace Rice, who designed Chicago's flag, designed a centennial flag for the state. To mark Illinois' 150th anniversary of statehood in 1968, a sesquicentennial flag was designed for the state. I have done a combination of the two to reflect our status as the 21st state of the union, with the stars and bars from 1918 and the I from the 1968 flag with a red star inside.

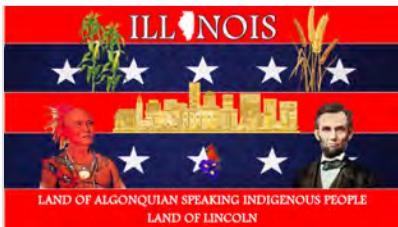
59

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 1987.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag submission represents the Indigenous People of Illinois, who should be acknowledged as our first residents, and our 16th President Abraham Lincoln (Land of Lincoln). It also represents the Wheat and Corn supplied by our farmlands, the skyline of our Capitol in Springfield, as well as our State Flower the Blue Violet, and our State bird, the Cardinal.



60

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 1987.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag submission represents the State of Illinois as our Nation's flag. It also shows an Indigenous person raising their hands as a sign of respect for mother earth that feed them with Wheat and Corn. The Eagle depicts strength, courage and freedom, and the Cardinal is our State bird.



61

Relationship to Illinois

I was born near Illinois and have had a connection with it through the years. Either with loved ones and friends or vacationing with family. One of my favorite memories was taking Amtrak through the state with my wife to see the different parts of the state and admire the genuine Americana of the all parts of our country. We ended our journey in Chicago and went to as many landmarks, eateries, and museums. Though I am not an Illinoisan, I am very happy to share this United States with them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Three 7 point stars to show the three main parts of the state as well as represent the 21st state. Field of blue for water and industry. River element for transit and the importance of the river to the states history as well as today. 16 point compass made of feathers to show the navigation and travel to, from, and through the state, as well as a nod to the 16th president, Lincoln. Feathers for native Illiniwek. Orange and white field for agriculture and unity. 5 bars for 5 main Illini Tribes.



62

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64

Relationship to Illinois

I was born Clay County and raised in Wayne County. I have been married for 42 years and living on a small farm with my husband outside of Geff, Illinois. I have recently retired from my job in an auto body shop and am now a part time artist in my 60s. I am an artist, digital designer for Riley Blake Designs as well as a chainsaw carver. Life is good!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I tried to incorporate all aspects of Illinois as I see it. I included the state bird, insect, tree and sport as well as the Chicago skyline and a farming scene. These are all painted by myself and vectorized in an Adobe Illustrator file which I can send if needed. Thank you for considering my designs!!



65

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Clay County and raised in Wayne County. Our family farmed together (and still are) my entire life. I still live on a small farm near Geff, IL with my husband of 42 years. I have recently retired from my job in an auto body shop in Fairfield and am enjoying my life as a part time artist, painter, chainsaw carver and digital designer. Thank you so much for giving someone like myself an opportunity to submit a design for the Illinois state flag!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made this design simple depicting the two mainstays of Illinois. We are all connected in some way so I have added a connecting circle. Of course, most of us can't think of Illinois without Abraham Lincoln. I made a few variations of this design on Illustrator but narrowed it down to this as the best representation of Illinois as I know it.





66

Relationship to Illinois

Longtime Illinois resident; was born here and have lived in Illinois for 17 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bundle of grain and the nickname The Prairie State represents the state's strong agricultural sector and history, the band around it symbolizes the Chicago flag and represents the state's urban development. In the middle of the stars is "1818" representing the year Illinois first joined the Union.



67

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in NWI for over five years and spend a lot of time in Illinois visiting friends, working for various Illinois-based companies, exploring the natural and man-made wonders of Illinois, and taking friends and family visiting us from home to see the sites and sounds of our close neighbor, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is very self-explanatory, which is why it is so appealing. There are no deep, outdated meanings. No reason to say "what was the designer thinking?" or "That no longer applies in today's world". It's as pure and timeless as the land and waters that make up Illinois. Dark blue is the color of importance; Illinois is a state known for high importance in agriculture and industry. Bright and vibrant grass for the Prairie State. Waves, of course, as Illinois is a proud home to Lake Michigan.

68

Relationship to Illinois

I came to Illinois in 1995 for college and have made it home. I feel a connection to Illinois and a sense of calling to the great people of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange honors our fertile farmland and agricultural importance. 2 Light Blue bands are for rivers, both great and small, bordering our state. The Med. Blue represents the role the I & M canal played in our development. The Dark Blue color reflects the beneficial connection to Lake Michigan. Embedded within the design are 2 distinct L's for our state's debt to Pres. Lincoln. LL=Land of Lincoln. The star (honoring our world city Chicago) is our state's capacity of being a light to the whole country



69

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Southern Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White background: Honors the Current flag of Illinois
Blue stripe: Represents the Illinois River
Blue diamond: Represents Lake Michigan and its importance to the state
Golden Star: the star itself represents Illinois while the golden color represents agriculture or more specifically corn which is one of Illinois top crop



70

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 1995. I not only look at this state as home, but sense a calling to it and its people.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

[alternate star design] The orange honors our fertile farmland and agricultural importance. 2 Light Blue bands are for rivers, both great and small, bordering our state. The Med. Blue represents the role the I & M canal played in our development. The Dark Blue color reflects the beneficial connection to Lake Michigan. Embedded within the design are 2 distinct L's for our state's debt to Pres. Lincoln. LL=Land of Lincoln. The star is our state's capacity of being a light to the whole country.



71

Relationship to Illinois

Living in Illinois has shaped so much of who I am today. From being born under the bright lights and bustling streets of Chicago to being raised under the starry skies and peaceful farmlands of Dekalb County, this state has been my home and my inspiration. Being in the Land of Lincoln, I'm proud of our rich history and diverse communities. Illinois isn't just where I live; it's where I've built my life, married my wife, raised our children, and made memories to last a lifetime.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My "gear and crop" flag design blends the idea of industry and agriculture. The graphic is inspired by native American art. Each leaf of the plant represents an Illinois cash crop; corn, soybeans, wheat, and hay. The gear and hub have 14 teeth that represent 14 different industries. The orange represents our landscape made up of rolling prairies, fields, forests, and diverse ecosystems. The blue represents Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river that are so incredibly vital to our economy.



72

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois since 1997, since emigrating from Serbia.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green = fertile land + corn husks
Blue = bodies of water + democracy
Gold = corn belt + economy
Green around the gold = corn husk
16 stripes (counting the 1 blue + 8 gold + 7 green) = Land of Lincoln
Blue frame around green = Major rivers/lakes
21 stars with middle as largest = IL central US state
Deer Antlers = State animal



73

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong, proud Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the laser beam projects a powerful image of Illinois. I believe my design is so powerful it does not need to be discussed.



74

Relationship to Illinois

I've been living in Illinois since late 2013.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is inspired by the Illinois Centennial flag by Wallace Rice. Yellow represent that the state is an agriculture state and is a prairie state. Blue represents The bodies of water surrounding Illinois and in Illinois. Lake Michigan, Mississippi River, and Ohio River. The stars on the top represent the Northern states when Illinois became a state and the southern stars represent the southern state when Illinois became a state and the bigger star represents Illinois itself. Lincoln State



75

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is the birthplace of my grandfather and great-grandfather.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star and 'arrow of progress' pay tribute to the past as well as pointing towards the future. They reflect the art deco architecture of Illinois as well as traditional wind vane and barn designs. The colors and forms are meant to recall the original flag, with the arrow echoing the shape of the eagle's wing. The red and gold triangles coming together to form a star represent "State Sovereignty, National Union." As a hidden feature, the flag is composed of 18 polygons for the 18th state.



76

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Arkansas in recent years but my love for my birthstate has never diminished! I was born in Rockford, Illinois, the city where my mom was born and died young. My paternal grandfather's family lived in western Illinois (Henderson county) for many generations. I've always been enamored with flags and while I like the current design I've looked forward to the possibility of a redesign and will be buying a copy of the new flag to proudly display in my home!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A copper-colored, 21 pointed shape represents a penny for Lincoln. Orange and Blue are featured because they are iconic state colors, they're in bars that frame the shape to signify the many rivers that give Illinois a recognizable border. The shape has 21 points for the 21st state admitted to the union in 1818, which is why each stripe has 18 dots. A silhouette of the eagle from the seal is included to give the flag the symbol of the nation. I like five stripes but submitted a three bar design.

77

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79

Relationship to Illinois

I am American, and so is Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red and white are because those are the Illinois state colors. The blue shield in the center is the same shade of blue on the flag of Chicago, (the state's largest city. The 21 stars inside the shield represent Illinois place as the 21st state added to the union.



80

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the city of Chicago and have been living here for over 30 years with a gap in my 20s when i lived out of state. I also went to IMSA in Aurora in high school and UIUC for college.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are 21 stars on the flag representing Illinois becoming the 21st state in the union. 10 at the top and 10 at the bottom for the 10 northern and 10 southern states in the union before Illinois. The 2 navy stripes represent the water on the eastern and western bounds of the state: the Mississippi to the west and the ohio/wabash rivers east. The orange represents pumpkins which we grow more than any other state. The navy and blue color scheme is the same as UIUC our land grant university.



81

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white and blue color is inspired by the Centennial flag, while the brown represents the Dave Matthews Band incident which is fondly remembered to Illinoisians. The bird is a Northern Cardinal, the Illinois state bird. It destroying Chicago skyline represents how the city is often overrepresented and other cities didn't get the representation deserved. The CGpog emojis pays tribute to Gavin Attack, which is the most legendary Chicagoan and symbolize how Illinois is a very POG state.



82

Relationship to Illinois

I'm the Governor, duh.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is an updated design of our current flag but modified to show how Illinois is now the state "Where Freedom Dies" symbolized by the dead eagle being hung, and the Latin translation for that phrase. I'm doing a really good job and proud of myself for curtailing the rights of the people of Illinois.



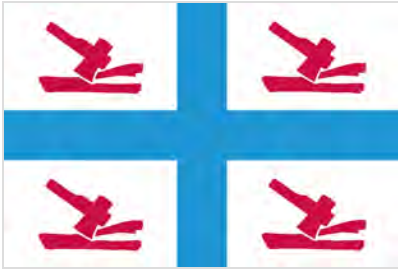
83

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is deeply rooted in my family's history. My grandparents had a farm in western Illinois, where they worked tirelessly and built a life for themselves after immigrating from Hungary. I spent my summers there growing up, helping with chores and listening to their stories about how they came here in search of a better life. Now, I study history at the University of Chicago, delving deeper into the history of the state that has been a part of so many family's stories.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The axes splitting rails is a reference to Abraham Lincoln, who rose from humble beginnings as a rail-splitter. The crossroads are for the state's central geographic location within the country and for the many routes by which diverse peoples have come to the state. Each branch of the crossroads points to a different cardinal direction, while the rail-splitter figures sit between the branches, resulting in a design reminiscent of a compass. The colors are red, white, and blue.



84

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Springfield IL and lived here most of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used the Canadian Pale template. I used blue to represent the great lakes and rivers that play an important role in our states wealth and boundaries. The circle of 21 stars represents Illinois as the 21st state in the Union.



85

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago, I recently relocated for a career opportunity. Growing up, a 30-minute drive north could either take me to Chicago in the north or the rich farmland to the south. The contrast between Illinois's urban and rural landscapes has always fascinated me and has been a constant presence in my life. My undergraduate studies took place in a rural setting, while my graduate studies brought me to Chicago. Additionally, I have always been a vexillology nerd.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The vertical blue stripe on the left symbolizes the Mississippi River, while the quarter circle in the upper left corner signifies Lake Michigan. Both are significant to Illinois' development. The expansive green field symbolizes the state's extensive prairies and fertile farmland.

86

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an IL resident since 1986. I moved from Roselle to Chicago in 1997 and have been raising my children here since 2011.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design celebrates the importance of water to Illinois, by depicting the Mississippi river and Lake Michigan on its left and right sides. Green and gold represent IL's largest crops, soy and corn. The gray bar represents steel rail connecting IL to the country, making it a shipping hub and commercial center. The red six pointed star represents Chicagoland, which contains 75% of IL's population and is its economic and cultural heart.



87

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue symbolizes Illinois's significant waterways and bodies of water. The green signifies the state's vast prairies, represented by a downward-pointing triangle to symbolize the transformation of these prairies into farmland and the successful invention of the self-scouring steel plow in Illinois. The yellow corn, Illinois's state crop, is depicted to resemble a Fleur-de-lis, honoring the state's discovery in 1673 by the French explorer Louis Jolliet and Jesuit Father Jacques Marquette.

88

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an IL resident since 1986. I moved from Roselle to Chicago in 1997 and have been raising my children here since 2011.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The amber field at the bottom of this flag represents agriculture's importance to the state. The subdivided star gives us blue waters at bottom, highlighting the critical importance of IL's rivers, lakes, and shipping canals. The gray color at top represents IL's world-class urban environments and manufacturing prowess. The light blue field at the top of the flag represents IL's boundless, open sky.



89

Relationship to Illinois

I will be 50 years old tomorrow and lived in Illinois my entire life. I am a public middle school Art teacher and have been teaching for nearly 20 years. I am excited that Illinois is getting a new flag! As a public school teacher and artist I know what designs excite young people and those young at heart!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The official state insect of Illinois is the beautiful Monarch Butterfly. I thought a design incorporating the butterfly would be an important symbol for the great State of Illinois. Monarchs are important pollinators that help make our prairies beautiful. Monarchs are a symbol of transformation and rebirth, ideals that I believe are most important in today's social climate and something all Illinoisans can be proud to wave! I incorporated the colors of I believe best represent Illinois.

90

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an IL resident since 1986. I moved from Roselle to Chicago in 1997 and have been raising my children here since 2011.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The central image of this flag evokes agriculture generally, but can also be interpreted either as a corn stalk or as the IL state wildflower, milkweed. The pink, six pointed star is intended to evoke the milkweed blossom with its color, but the Chicagoland area with its shape. This flag is simple and bold and seeks to fuse rural and urban symbols into one beautiful unit, much like Illinois.

91

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93

Relationship to Illinois

My grandparents migrated to Illinois in the 1800's and both had farms outside of Chicago. Their farms were close to each other and that is how my parents met. I went to Naperville schools and it was there I had an art teacher, Carolyn Finzer, who inspired me to become a graphic designer. I am now a Design Director at Chicago Public Schools.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag honors all of our waterways including the Mississippi on our west boarder and Lake Michigan on the east. It also honors our nickname The Prairie State since prairies cover most of our state. The best flags don't include words so that they are readable from both sides, so I took advantage of the symmetry of the letter "I" for Illinois. I also include the sunrise or sunset that makes it all work.

94

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Arlington Heights, IL. I attended the University of Illinois at Springfield, lived in Peoria for a year, and now live in Normal. I have been fortunate to have lived in multiple areas of Illinois throughout my life!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white silhouette on the left is in the shape of Abraham Lincoln, which fits Illinois as the "Land of Lincoln." The three stars represent the three state capitols Illinois has had throughout its history. The blue stripe represents Lake Michigan and the green stripe represents agriculture. Both Lake Michigan and agriculture were two driving forces for Illinois to become the state it is today!

95

Relationship to Illinois

I have studied much about the history, culture, and the people of Illinois. And would very much like to visit there in the near future

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripes represents the 3 bodies of water that form the shape of Illinois, the Ohio and Mississippi river, and lake Michigan. The red stripes represents strength and courage. The 21 Stars represent Illinois being the 21st state in the union. The middle star represents Illinois' bright future and the 20 extra stars form a shape of an eagle spreading it's wings. The red white and blue color scheme also represents the 3 large nations that ruled over Illinois. France, Britain, and the u.s.a



96

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston, grew up in Chicago, and did some volunteer work for Illinois political causes, the Illinois Bicentennial Commission, and several civic organizations.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The barn red half of the flag evokes the side of a pyramid, representing Southern Illinois as "Little Egypt" and alluding to the rural nature of Downstate Illinois. This also echoes the legacy of the mound-building Mississippian culture that first settled the region. The light blue half of the flag represents Chicago and our state's waterways. The symbols in the middle represent Lincoln's legacy as the savior of the Union and the breaker of chains. We are a diverse state, united in our history.



97

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, born and raised in Joliet. I am proud of my state and do not intend to change my status as an Illinoisan any time soon.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Crack of Dawn Over Illinois" Inspired by sunrise on state seal
Sun Rays: Double as farm field rows
Orange: Our #1 pumpkin production
Gold: Corn/agriculture
Light Blue Wave: Lake Michigan and Illinois' waterways
Dark Blue "sky": The same color as the blue on the US flag
6-point star: Chicagoland
Small 5-point star: Downstate Illinois
Large 5-point star: A whole Illinois above all else, as a state in the Union
Bottom is larger to represent swathes of IL farmland
Gold Pyramid evokes "Little Egypt"



98

Relationship to Illinois

I live there

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Its the burrito I hads for lunchs



99

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Barrington, Illinois and have lived here since; I'm happy to have the opportunity to design a flag to better represent our state and our people!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents Lake Michigan in the northeast, and the Mississippi River in the west, while the orange is inspired by Illinois' pumpkin industry, as well as the cultural mainstays of Illinois such as the Chicago Bears or UIUC. The 16-pointed star pays tribute to Abraham Lincoln, our 16th president and state luminary. The star in the center combines to resemble a compass, showing Illinois' spot in the heart of the US. The prairie grass pattern is a nod to our state's agricultural legacy.



100

Relationship to Illinois

I live there

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is my dogs and shes happys



101

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Barrington, Illinois and have lived here since; I'm happy to have the opportunity to design a flag to better represent our state and our people!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Alternate design of my first - The blue represents Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, while the orange is inspired by Illinois' pumpkin industry, as well as the cultural mainstays of Illinois such as the Chicago Bears or UIUC. The 16-pointed star pays tribute to Abraham Lincoln, our 16th president and state luminary. The star in the center combines to resemble a compass, showing Illinois' spot in the heart of the US. The prairie grass pattern is a nod to our state's agricultural legacy.



102

Relationship to Illinois

I live there

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This things is a little stupids. My other dog 😊



103

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Barrington, Illinois and have lived here since; I'm happy to have the opportunity to design a flag to better represent our state and our people!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

3rd alternate design - The blue represents Lake Michigan in the northeast, and the Mississippi River in the west. I kept the bulk of the flag white for this version, as it is reminiscent of the previous flag and offers a simpler look. The 16-pointed star pays tribute to Abraham Lincoln, our 16th president and state luminary. The star in the center combines to resemble a compass, showing Illinois' spot in the heart of the US. The prairie grass pattern is a nod to our state's agricultural legacy.



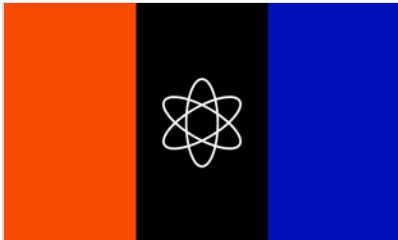
104

Relationship to Illinois

I am not from Illinois, but Northwest Indiana. Since neither Chicago nor Indiana residents claim us, I understand the parity between Chicago and the rest of the state. From the big city to way south in Cairo, Illinois in Little Egypt, every person seeks to be represented. Some people may think that is a feat as likely as our White Sox coming out of this year with a positive attitude, but I believe such a flag design is possible.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The atom in the center represents Illinois' advancement and unity. An atom contains fundamental particles which are bound together by electromagnetic forces. We are this one unit of many particles, this one state, with a unified people. In the tricolor, orange represents the prairies, agriculture, and education. Black represents the workforce, industry, and past struggles. Blue represents the lake and rivers and symbolizes Illinois' push toward liberty, peace, and justice.



105

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my family's home for generations. This was the state that my grandparents came to after leaving Cuba in 1958 (Mom's side). This was the state that offered opportunity for my ancestors after leaving Ireland in the late 19th century (Dad's Side). This state is the place where my wife and I grew up (Minooka and Chicago) and have chosen to raise our two small boys. I am also very proud to be a public school Social Science teacher (District #144) and baseball coach (District #202).



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Horizontal stripe-Representing access to Great Lakes
Vertical Stripe-Representing the importance of rivers to IL
Blue Cross-IL connecting the East to the West (historically)
Star 1-IL statehood
Star 2-National Contributions (skyscrapers/Pullman Car/etc)
Star 3-Columbian World Fair
Star 4-POTUS homes of Obama, Lincoln, and birthplace of Reagan
4 Stars-Homage to US Grant's military rank
Eagle-IL Confederacy "Robe with Mystic Bird" as homage to namesake & freedom/liberty
Stovepipe hat-Lincoln

106

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Northwestern University student in Evanston. After college, I hope to move to Chicagoland permanently. I fell in love with Illinois during my freshman year!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star in the center mirrors the stars on the Chicago flag, connecting the state to its largest city. The central white shape resembles a hat, drawing inspiration from Abraham Lincoln and alluding to the state nickname. The green and blue were chosen to demonstrate the variety of land in Illinois, with the blue representing Lake Michigan and the green (or alternatively amber) representing the vast landscapes throughout the state.

107



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois, and have been my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

As shown in the image below, I have designed a flag that shows green grass under a deep blue sky and setting sun. There are 21 stars around the sun, symbolizing Illinois's entrance into the union as the 21st state. In front of the sun is an arrowhead, which symbolizes the many native American tribes that resided within this beautiful state. To top it all off, the flag can easily be formatted to be square or rectangular.

108



Relationship to Illinois

I'm at least 4th generation Chicagoland native and could not think of any other place I would want to call home than Illinois. Best of big city amenities and serene natural wonder. I love that I have the opportunity to raise my family here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white background represents the flag flown by the French who were among the first Europeans to explore Illinois. The blue diagonal line represents the Illinois River. The 12 point star represents the 12 tribes that formed the Illini Confederacy. The white circle in the middle of the star represents hope & peace while showing that no group holds the center of power. The eagle is a symbol of strength, courage, and nobility. The black feathers on the eagle represent protection.

109

Relationship to Illinois

I am a trans person who moved to Illinois to seek protection and rights I didn't have in my birth state, and doing so has allowed me to live a life of happiness I never could have had before. I believe Illinois stands for many things that make us as individuals and as a people beautiful, and I wanted to create a flag that represented the hope, prosperity, and safety that Illinois has provided me in my time here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The rising sun, a nod to the current flag, represents hope and the promise of a new day. It has 21 beams, representing the 21st state. Blue represents the open sky seen from our prairies, and the green represents our agriculture. Three bands diving them represent Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and the Illinois River which connects them. Three stars represent the three capitals in Illinois history, and 6-point star represents Chicago, the center of economy and industry in the northeast.



110

Relationship to Illinois

resident and tax payer

Explain the meaning behind your flag

at the bottom we got corn because we are a corn statethen above that theres a tourist licking the beanabove that we have the john hancock, sears tower, and trump tower the 3 staples of the chicago skyline because everything in illinois loves chicagothen to the left we have the famous gas pricesbelow that we have pumpkins next to that we have the cta red line



111

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois; I have lived in Quincy, Illinois for 9 years. I am excited to be part of this history because I love flags/vexillology and I have felt Illinois needs a better flag. I have a design that is a good option. It would so cool to be part of Illinois history, especially in a subject that I love. Thank you for doing this.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green horizontal line represents the agriculture of our state. The yellow horizontal line represents the prosperity of Illinois, all the crops that grow in Illinois, namely corn and soybean. The white main background shows the purity of Illinois and its intent of creating peace. The light blue squiggly line shows the Mississippi River as it is a major border in Illinois and is relied upon by the state. The Red "Chicago" star represents the metropolitan areas like Chicago, Peoria, etc.

112

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois and have lived here most of my life, I honestly think Illinois is a nice state to live in.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star on the flag represents the capital, Springfield, the yellow represents the fields in southern Illinois, the gray represents the more industrial areas in the north, and the light blue stands for the lake. The dark blue stands for the sky.

113

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for the last 15 years and am a proud Chicagoan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The left field (in the blue from the Centennial flag) represents the path the Mississippi follows along the state's western border. The top right quadrant (in Chicago flag blue) represents Lake Michigan. The 21 six-pointed stars represent IL as the 21st state. The six-pointed stars are another nod to Chicago, but they can be altered if this is thought to be too Chicago-centric.



114

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois in the Chicago suburbs. Even after going to college and getting married, I still came back to Illinois, bought a home, and am soon to start a family. Illinois is my home and will be for years to come. I have family from the city of Chicago out to the rolling plains, and I love them all in their differences. I wanted to create a flag with meaning, one that represented as much those in the city as those on the farms, and those whose ancestors called this land home



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents Lake Michigan, the red 6-pointed star represents the great city built on its shore. The silver band represents the state's mighty rivers. The green represents the prairies and farms that sprawl across the state. Around the Chicago star, 21 hawk's feathers with tips dipped in dark ink represent Illinois as the 21st state in the union and the deep connection the state has to its native peoples. This flag represents unity through diversity in both geography and culture.

115

Relationship to Illinois

Waukegan Resident, President of the Waukegan Public Library Board of Trustees

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lincoln - Land of Lincoln, Savior of the Union, a much needed unifying theme. Blue - A shade the represents progress, steel and the waters that connect the state and have been pivotal in our history. Two red stripes - Our two part state motto: State Sovereignty, National Union Three white strips / 5 total stripes - The diverse regions of our state. Red, White and Blue - A reflection of the patriotic heritage of our state seal.



116

Relationship to Illinois

I've worked as a designer since moving to Illinois after graduating from college back in 1987. Been here more than half my life. Never left. Love it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The best state flags are the simplest, with own-able looks (like Colorado or Arizona).

My idea for a new state flag is based on a grid of square building blocks. Whether building a company or building a life for yourself, Illinois is a great place to start. The design consists of 3 horizontal bands - 'sky blue' (rural areas), 'steel gray' (urban areas) and 'grass green' (suburbs). Squares are removed to create an "I" out of the negative space. The result is a fresh, clean, forward looking flag.



117

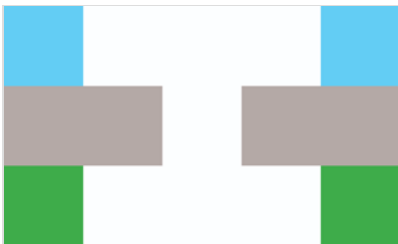
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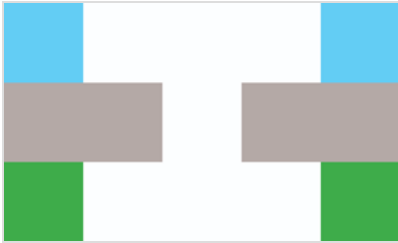
118

Relationship to Illinois

I've worked here as a designer since moving to Illinois after graduating from college back in 1987. Been here more than half my life. Never left. Love it.

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119

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here my whole life I'm 23

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I kept the the same style of the old flag style to keep the original feeling but with the new taste. The Eagle symbol strength and togetherness as a state,. The flowers , butterfly , the white tale deer and the white pine tree are all symbols of the state you will see in the state of Illinois.



120

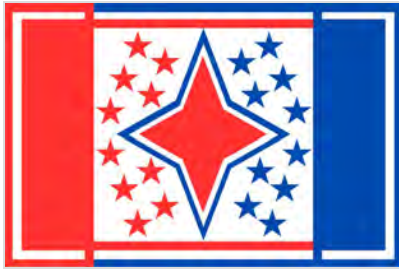
Relationship to Illinois

Born and Raised in the Chicago Suburbs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Upper Quarter is a blue band for Lake Michigan. The Bottom Quarter is a blue band for the Mississippi River. Between them is a blue band for the Illinois and Chicago Rivers and I&M Canal, making a hidden "I". On the Left is a green section representing the Forests and Prairies of the "Prairie State". On the Right is a yellow section representing the agriculture industry. In the Center is a single Chicago Star to represent Chicago and the Illinois Motto: State Sovereignty, National Unity.





121

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of IL since 1997, emigrating from Serbia.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

21 Stars with American red, blue, white. IL at center as it is geographically centric and 21st state. 4 pointed star as compass per being the center.



122

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home my entire life, and I have lots of family here too. Having been born and raised in this particular region of the state, I am well-acquainted with the urban and rural side of Illinois culture, and the values that go with both. For these reasons I can safely say that my relationship to the Prairie State is strong.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

European settlement in what is now Illinois started with France, and today some French influence still remains in Illinois, including some colonial-era historical sites and even a dialect of French. Although Illinois is a state that prides itself on progress, I find there's no harm in acknowledging one's roots. To this end I came up with a simple design, augmenting the flag of the old Kingdom of France with as many white stars as there are golden fleurs-de-lis.



123

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Illinois in 1989, I have lived all except three years of my life in the Land of Lincoln (and two of those years were during the budget impasse of the 2010s). I also hold degrees from two Illinois higher education institutions.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For "Stars of Illinois": The orange background represents Illinois' agriculture and our state's status as the top pumpkin producer in the country. The four white stars represent the four Illinois residents to have lived in the White House as President of the United States (Lincoln, Obama, Reagan, Grant). The red star and blue background in the upper right corner represent Illinois' own "upper right corner": Chicago and Lake Michigan (star and blue come from the city's flag).

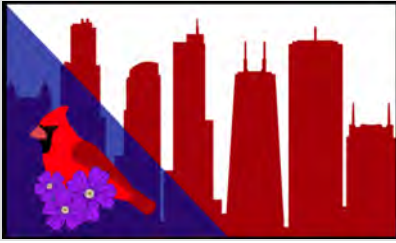
124

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, where I still live. I've explored parks and traveled throughout the state, experiencing both its rural and urban areas. My upbringing and education in Illinois public schools have profoundly shaped who I am. The most important people and places in my life are here, making Illinois an integral part of my identity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag embodies minimalism and modernism, using red, white, and blue to highlight Illinois' connection to the nation. The background features Chicago's skyline, symbolizing the state's urban identity. On the left, the state bird (the northern cardinal) and the state flower (the violet) represent Illinois' admiration of nature and the state's rural populations.



125

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois and have lived here most of my life, I honestly think Illinois is a nice state to live in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star on the flag represents the capital, Springfield, the yellow represents the fields in southern Illinois, the gray represents the more industrial areas in the north, and the light blue stands for the lake. The dark blue stands for the sky.



Relationship to Illinois

My name is Corrie Harris [REDACTED] I was born and raised on the Southside of Chicago Illinois I attended and graduated from Roosevelt University I was part of TRIO and I graduated from Roosevelt University with a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration Marketing I am an author of three books I am also published in the June July issue of the AARP Magazine I enjoy reading science and learning new things My hobbies are watching basketball football listening to music and shopping

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Melting Pot design is the State of Illinois design rapped in the State of Illinois Seal which represents how Illinois is the home to a variety of cultural backgrounds and religions This design also represents the history and sacrifice of all military personnel who have made for this country to live in peace The sun rays represent all the military personnel we have lost The sun is a new beginning as it comes up over the state This is significant for all the new residents who just became citizens



Relationship to Illinois

I am 72 years old and have lived in the Chicago area almost my whole life. I am a passionate student of the state's history and fan of all the Chicago sports teams, as well as Northwestern. I have worked for the RTA, IDOT, United Airlines, and Hyatt Hotels in the Chicago area. My wife is a native Illinoisan and my son now lives on the north side of Chicago and he is equally passionate about the state and the city of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The field of green with the light blue (sky) above is meant to depict a prairie because Illinois is the Prairie State. The silhouette of the state with the silhouette of Lincoln is obviously because Illinois is also the Land of Lincoln. Finally the blue strip at the bottom of the flag is meant to represent the two major bodies of water that border the state on the west (the Mississippi River) and the east (Lake Michigan).



128

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois from the Twin Cities in 1985. I live near the lake in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois' flag should be unique, memorable and iconic. Illinois is the Land of Lincoln, the Heart of the USA, the home of Sweet Home Chicago, and thousands of amazing cities, towns and villages. The central "I" stands for "Illinois", but also for independence, individualism, and the power of ideas. It is also the shape of a steel beam, which is central to the skyscrapers of Chicago and our industrial legacy. The star represents Chicago or a good idea. Colors are OG Red, OG Blue, and White.



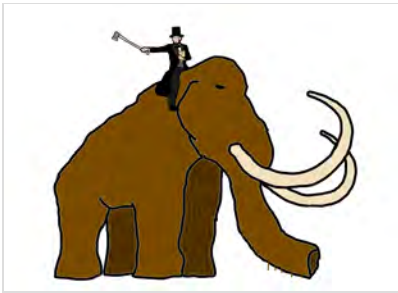
129

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for all my life and have tremendous pride in my state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag depicts Abraham Lincoln riding a woolly mammoth. Abe, who is the subject of our state motto "Land of Lincoln", represents honesty and virtue. The mammoth is an example of one of the most impressive creatures that roamed our state in its prehistory. The white background is an homage to the previous state flag, where the white separated it from the typical "seal on blue bed sheet".



130

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Land of Lincoln design illustrates the agriculture architecture shipping and business hubs Agriculture and Architecture have a huge impact on Illinois weather Corn is the most commonly grown vegetable in the state Corn also plays a part in predicting weather conditions The beautiful buildings and homes of all shapes and sizes create tunnels on windy days There are various forms of shipping all goods and merchandise to suppliers and consumers Some of the most prominent business headquarters



131

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Bridge Lift design is Illinois gateway to transporting all goods and merchandise to and from suppliers by water The prairie state is the gateway to the world We open our mighty water ways which connects us with the world of commerce with our imports and exports We are a major business hub with mega skyscrapers making our footprints in the world of business government and major finance in the state and government We are proud people The northern cardinal bird is always watching over Illinois



132



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I've lived in Illinois my whole life. I like living in Illinois and I'm proud to live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars represent that Illinois was the 21st state, the 2 Abraham Lincolns represent that the state's nickname is "The Land of Lincoln", and the white flag represents the original flag's color.

133



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in May of 2013 with my family after 20 years in the USAF Reserve. Illinois is where my wife's family is from and it is where I have made my home after my military service. I have been a fan of flag design through all of my travels in the States and in the Military. As soon as we had moved here, I have began working on various ideas for Illinois' new flag. I am honored to have an opportunity to participate in this process. My phone number is from NC, but I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My proposal for the new State Flag is a redesign of the Illinois Centennial Flag. It is also inspired by the Chicago Flag, being its inverse pattern. This is intended to be recognizable as an Illinois design, but still being distinct from Chicago. It has the same dimensions of the Chicago Flag, to include the stripes. There are 20 five pointed blue Stars on this flag to represent the 20 other States, with one larger white star in the center representing Illinois as the 21st State to join the US.

134

Relationship to Illinois

Current resident and have lived in Illinois my entire life with the exception of 18 months that I lived and worked in Terre Haute, Ind. I am also a University of Illinois graduate.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Red is same on Polish flag. Gold is same as on German flag. Green is same as on Irish flag. These are the three largest ancestries in Illinois. Red-Gold-Green also Pan African colors representing' Illinois African American community. 21 stars represent Illinois as 21st state; gold star represents Illinois veterans KIA while defending the Union. Blue represents important waterways in Illinois and is the same color as on the US flag. All heraldry rules followed.

135

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here, and have lived here nearly my entire life. I am raising my family in the Northwest suburbs.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The iconic Lincoln silhouette looks forward. The three arrows represent progress and symbolize Illinois as an epicenter for road, rail and air travel. The blue arrows symbolize the Mississippi River flanking the West and Lake Michigan in the East. They are the same blue hue as the Chicago flag. The yellow arrow represents agriculture. The green base highlights the state's commitment to its natural resources. The arrows also mimic the iconic I-L-L, and can easily be repurposed in ad campaign.

136

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Tennessee, but only lived there for a few weeks of my life. Me and my family moved to Illinois when I was only four months old. I have lived the rest of my life here since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The circle in the center represents Cahokia Mounds, the largest ancient city in this nation. The 3 seven-pronged stars represent Illinois being the 21st state. The yellow background represents Illinois's agricultural economy. The blue line running diagonally through represents the Illinois river.

137

Relationship to Illinois



Born and raised in Chicago, lived and worked in it's suburbs, traveled to and maintained relationships with graduates of ISU, Wesleyan University, EIU, SIU, and UIC. I lived out of state for a while but returned to be with friends and family and don't plan on leaving ever again.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is designed to set itself apart from all other state flags which are dominated by red and blue, and also international flags. The colors green and amber represent nature and agriculture (corn, golden apples, prairie grass). The white intersecting lines represent Illinois as the crossroads of America: a transportation hub for rail, trucking, and air travel. A complimentary violet is used for lettering and accents. I kept the visually impaired in mind while designing and it shrinks well.

138

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and routinely participate in volunteer work for my community. I really appreciate the opportunities I have in this and hope I can give back.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is meant to blend natural flag design with unique elements of our state. The wavy border, for example, resembles the western Illinois border along the Mississippi river to keep aesthetical appeal while being recognizable as our state. Within the right side of the wavy border stands a 21 point star, representing us as the 21st state. On the left side is a triangle made with grain to represent our vast agricultural industry. The stars within the triangle represent our union with the U.S.



139

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and have lived here pretty much my entire life. I love my home, and I don't plan on leaving anytime soon.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the color purple not only because it is unique and barely used on flags, but also because the color symbolizes passion. It is also a combination of blue and red, I feel that over the past couple decades the two major sides of our political system have adopted these colors and I think that purple can signify a willingness to listen and change. I put the 21 pointed star because Illinois is the 21st state in the union.



140

Relationship to Illinois

I have studied much about the history, culture, and the people of Illinois. And would very much like to visit there in the near future

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripes represents the 3 bodies of water that form the shape of Illinois, the Ohio and Mississippi river, and lake Michigan. The red stripes represents strength and courage. And the white represents peace. There are 21 Stars to represent Illinois being the 21st state. The middle star represents Illinois' bright future and the 20 extra stars form a shape of an eagle spreading it's wings. The colors represents the 3 large nations that ruled over the land. France, Britain, and the u.s.a



141

Relationship to Illinois

Hi, my name is [REDACTED]. I was born in Normal, Illinois, and was raised in Clinton, Illinois. As a lifelong resident of this state, seeing it from top to bottom. I truly believe we are the best state in the Union, and that we have a bright future here in the Prairie State. I also have always had a passion for history, geography, and study of flags. I am excited to participate in the Illinois flag commission. Here is my flag...

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag's overall theme is celebration of the past while looking forward and progressing to the future. The center of the flag is a Black outline bust of Abraham Lincoln. The blue in the flag represents the rivers and lakes that make up the landscape of Illinois. The yellow/gold in the flag represents the Prairies of the Prairie State. The Stepped Design in the middle of the flag represents the Cahokia Mounds, calling to Illinois' Native American Era. The Star is the Star found on the flag of Chicago.



142



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria and I live in Bureau Junction in Bureau County.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red and white color scheme represents the main colors of Illinois State University. The six-pointed star represents the star from the Chicago flag. The 21 stars around the six-pointed star represents Illinois as the 21st state to join the union.

143



Relationship to Illinois

Self

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Tradition

144



Relationship to Illinois

Driven through state several times and visited it occasionally.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Modified Il. Centennial Flag 20 stars + 1 star: "State Sovereignty, National Union"; Civil War (nod to Lincoln) Old Glory Blue: Nod to US flag, Union (nod to Lincoln) Center star: Progress, innovation integrated into very fabric of Illinois's identity; shared communal purpose among all Illinoisans White field: honesty, simplicity, humbleness of Illinoisans, free state/abolition, purity, agricultural spirit/mentality 3 stripes: Main regions of Illinois Optional: Orange accents; integrated circle

145



Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is a resident in McHenry, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The White-Green Symbol in the Left center of the map defines the 3 regions of Illinois, North, Central, and South. The Blue and Green represent the Lakefront bordering the Metropolitan Area of Chicago. It is a simple map, as kids can draw this with easiness.



146

Relationship to Illinois

i love illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

bcecause illinois is funny

147



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Princeton and lived there until finishing the 8th Grade at Malden IL. My mother and her parents grew up in Illinois, and my grandfather grew up near Havana. My father spent some of his youth near Decatur. My Grandmother on my mother's side still lives in Illinois and has a passion for Illinois history. The folklore and culture I experienced from the mentors of my youth inspired me to learn Illinois French, a language that was once heard in many cities and villages across Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the 1918 Centennial Flag designed by Wallace Rice. The Symbol in the center is a Fleur de Lis which symbolizes the French history of Illinois. (Our state's name, as well as many city names, family names, and local traditions come from our french culture) The blue center stripe is the Illinois River which has both shaped our state and has been shaped by our people. White symbolizes the prairie, milkweed, snow, and our resilience. These are both American and French national colors.

148

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinois resident who has resided in multiple communities throughout the state, including Bloomington/Normal, Charleston, Champaign, O'Fallon/Fairview Heights, Pontiac, Rushville, and currently Edwardsville. I serve as a United Methodist Clergy-person in what is known as the Illinois Great Rivers Conference, which makes me available to proudly serve UM congregations across the state of Illinois (generally south of I-80).



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Using the colors already present in the current flag, I created a simple design emphasizing Illinois' prairies, agriculture, waterways, and beautiful sky. The central image is the state animal (white tailed deer) with three stars above marking the unity of northern, central and southern Illinois throughout significant moments of state history. The banner from Sharon Tyndale's seal remain present to show that we stand sovereign as a state and joined in advancing a more perfect union as a nation.

149

Relationship to Illinois

I have come to Illinois in the past, in the year 2018, when I visited Chicago with my family, and the local culture like the food, museums, attractions, and so much more have made me admire the state even more. Even though I have only been there once, I would love to visit again and maybe even live there in the near future.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists of a radiant sun, which symbolizes hope and justice, shining over a long blue river next to the white land, Illinois. The river serves as a symbol of the flow of life, or connectivity, between the people of Illinois, while the land is a metaphor for the Illinoisans as they stand under the radiant sun that shines equally over all of them. The 21 sun rays represent Illinois' place as the 21st state to join the Union.

150



Relationship to Illinois

both Perdue and Northwestern are in my top 5 B10 schools, plus the Chicago School of Economics is my second favorite economic theory.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun has gone away, across the Mississippi. Don't worry- it will be back again tomorrow.

151



Relationship to Illinois

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152

Relationship to Illinois

I am 23 years old and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I am a vexillologist and have always been interested in flags and the many unique designs of national, state, and city flags. When I first found out that Illinois would be redesigning the state flag I saw this as an opportunity to change what many perceive as a boring and uninspiring banner. Our great state deserves a good design for our state flag and should be as beloved by the people as the city flags of Chicago and Springfield.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design features a green stripe in the middle representing Illinois' fertile agricultural land and natural beauty. The two blue stripes symbolizing the important waterways of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. At the center, the big star signifies Illinois' admission as the 21st state in the United States, as well as the unity and diversity of the state. Surrounding the central star is a circle of smaller white stars, representing the 20 states that preceded Illinois into the Union.

153

Relationship to Illinois

I have traveled to your great state many times; I have many fond memories of traveling on the train from Colorado to Chicago. I live in Longmont, one of the original Chicago-Colorado Colony during the 1870's. St. Vrain and Left Hand Creek have a long history with Illinois even though we are almost exactly 1000 miles away. We still have the placard on our old Downtown Main Street.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Used some of the original ideas from the background of your old flag; green for the grass; blue for the waterfront; and white as the original background; the sun depicted is supposed to be the same as the old design; i feel it gives some of the same old time feel in a modern font.

154

Relationship to Illinois

I visited Illinois in 2018, with my family, and I have really admired the local culture such as the museums, food, and local attractions located in Chicago and the entire state. I have recently studied a lot more about the state in my Social Studies class, and my loving for the state has only grown, as I plan to visit it again really soon and maybe even move there after college.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists of a radiant orange sun rising in the red of morning over the rivers of Illinois, or Lake Michigan, shining over the land of the Illinoisans. The sun represents equality and justice for all the people; the red represents solidarity, the blue river represents connectivity and union between the citizens, and the white land represents a neutral symbol of teamwork and peace between Illinoisans.

155

Relationship to Illinois

I am 23 years old and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I am a vexillologist and have always loved flags since I was a child. I have always loved the different designs and color combinations of flags of different national, state, and city flags. When I first found out that Illinois was redesigning the state flag, I saw this as a chance to change our state flag which has often been seen as bland and uninspiring. Illinois deserves a banner that can fly proudly by our people. A flag for us!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design features a green stripe represents Illinois' natural beauty. The blue stripes symbolizes the importance of Lake Michigan & Mississippi river to Illinois. The big star signifies Illinois' admission as the 21st state in the Union. The yellow color of the star represents the wheat and corn industry, highlighting our state's agricultural contributions. The circle of 20 smaller white stars, represents the 20 states that preceded Illinois' admission into the United States.

156

Relationship to Illinois

StreetVanGogh: The Paintbrush that Binds Chicago and Illinois "In the heart of Illinois, where the wind whispers secrets through the prairies and the river runs like ink across a page, lies a city born from fire — Chicago. StreetVanGogh, an artist molded by this urban forge, wields a paintbrush not just as a tool, but as a compass that draws the lines connecting his city to the state he calls home. Chicago is the pulse of Illinois, a metropolis with a skyline that scratches at the stars,

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Illinois flag is a visual poem, blending Chicago's iconic skyline with the state's natural beauty — prairies, rivers, violets, and oaks. It symbolizes unity between urban ambition and rural roots, showing how Illinois' soul thrives in this balance. Like a mighty oak rooted in rich soil, Illinois draws strength from its diverse landscape, with Chicago as its crown. This flag isn't just a symbol — it's Illinois' beating heart in full color.



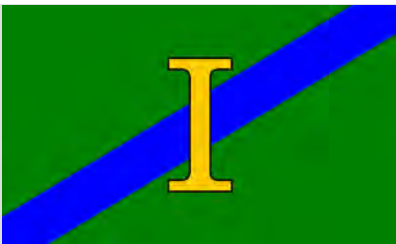
157

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the greenery seen throughout Illinois (numerous farms and forests). Blue represents the abundant waterways in the state, including Lake Michigan, numerous rivers, and historic canals. The blue diagonal line also roughly follows the southwest course of the Illinois River (it follows Route 66 too). The gold represents the state's role as a major corn producer and agriculture overall. The "I" uses a font similar to that of the current flag to pay homage to its predecessor.





158

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for the past 10 years, but I'm originally from Kentucky.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design blends modern style with tradition. It symbolizes stability and creativity, while drawing inspiration from the states history, showcasing a fresh, bold approach.



159

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for the past 10 years, but I'm originally from Kentucky.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My traditional Illinois flag design maintains classic elements with updated details. It uses familiar symbols and colors to honor Illinois' history while offering a refined, timeless look.



160

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the great state of Illinois. I also received all of my degrees from Illinois State University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag displays 21 stovepipe hats on an orange background. The stovepipe hat symbolizes Illinois place as the land of Lincoln, and there are 21 because Illinois is the 21st state. Orange is the color of cornstalks at harvest time, symbolizing agriculture.

161

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Joliet and lived in Illinois my entire life. I've always been interested in flags and was waiting for the day that I could have the opportunity to redesign my state's flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the Centennial flag of 1918, the current flag inspires the white background. The colors are the classic American red, white, and blue. The red bar in the middle represents the unity of our state, while the 2 blue bars represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The white star in the middle is the star of Springfield and the 6-pointed star is the star of Chicago. There are 21 stars in total because we were the 21st state. The stars spell out the letter I, for Illinois.

162

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for the past 10 years, but I'm originally from Kentucky.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Illinois flag design featuring Lincoln in profile captures the state's heritage. This nod to Lincoln highlights his iconic role in Illinois' history, blending traditional imagery with a distinctive, historical touch.



163

Relationship to Illinois

My child has had a vast interest in Illinois, and he recently saw this as a opportunity to show his creativity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three (3) stars on the left represent northern, central, and southern Illinois. The bird silhouette represents the northern cardinal, which is the state bird. For the colors, the white represents purity, showing that the three (3) regions help each other. The blue represents the state's important bodies of water (Mississippi and Illinois rivers, Lake Michigan, etc)(it's also on top because they're mostly in the north). And the red represents the state bird's color.





164

Relationship to Illinois

Me paw lived there

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's a glistening NUTS though

165

Relationship to Illinois

A proud Illinois state resident for nearly two decades!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The “Sunburst” design updates the Illinois State Flag with simplicity and native design principles, reflecting the Algonquian heritage of IL. Featuring a light blue horizon of 'sky and lake', red 'sun', and gold 'sun rays and agriculture'. The flag includes 18 rays for statehood (1818) and 21 elements honoring IL as the 21st state while avoiding overly complex or colonial styles. This design stands out amongst other flags with its clear distinct recognizability as a symbol to represent Illinois.



166

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois — from Pontiac to Peoria, to Roodhouse, to Chicago — I've lived in this state from many different perspectives. If a tornado tearing down my home in Washington, Illinois, back in 2013 didn't make me pack up and leave, I don't think anything will.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange symbolizes Illinois' plains and abundant crops; the blue stripes represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan; the white stripes symbolize our industry sectors — technology and transportation. A white-tailed deer embodies the beauty and resilience of Illinois wildlife; the star signifies our state's place in the Union. In the bend of the deer's neck, the subtle shape of a boot honors the working class's role in shaping our state. Every piece captures the essence of Illinois.



167

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois resident since '84. Illinois teacher since '07.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tricolor background represents the French origins of our state, as well as our national flag; it also serves to represent liberty, equality, and fraternity from the French. There are twenty stars on either side of the white stripe, indicating the 20 states that came before Illinois. The middle shield is a play on the shield found our current flag, with a singular star to represent the state. The shield is intentionally styled as an arrowhead along with the corresponding stars adjoining.



168

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and partially raised in our capital for the first years of my life, started school in Riverton then moved to Kincaid where I remained for my high school career and a few years after. My entire family grew up here, and my grandparents before them. I was a school photographer and made my way around the state seeing all sorts of new places, I have a great love for this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose two subjects to display on the Illinois State flag, corn and the Chicago skyline, representing the differences in jobs and people in this state, from the little man to the big ones, and all the families in between.



169

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is a beautiful state, one of my ancestors, one of my friends, and one i have fondly visited. It is deserving of a dignified and iconic symbol, representing the people and its government in a unit.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first submission is a white flag with a blue stripe, evoking the Illinois's Centennial Flag, with a modified state seal in its center. It is 3:5 in proportion, like the previous flag. The blue stripe represents Illinois as an individual state and its autonomy, as well as the tributaries to the Mississippi or Lake Michigan, waters which serve Illinois's commerce and growth.



170

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home and my livelihood for each of my 26 years. I've grown up in the suburbs of Chicago, lived in the city, explored downstate in my time at UIUC, and now in my career--I drive to each and every corner of the state to make deliveries. I don't feel out of place in the city, or in the country. I believe that this experience and my time as a lifelong Illinoisan qualifies me to speak for both the Chicago civilian, and the blue-collar folks across this state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

May Green for the riverlands of Northern Illinois, Corn (yellow) for the prairies of central IL, and white for the mining-dominant and culturally unique Southern Illinois. blue represents the major waterways of Illinois- the Mississippi, Ohio, Wabash & Illinois Rivers, as well as Lake Michigan. The wave pattern for the Illinois Waterway is from the St. Louis flag. Red symbols are for Chicago & St. Louis + French explorative history. 7-pointed star = suburban counties of Chicago.

171

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is a beautiful state, one of my ancestors, one of my friends, and one i have fondly visited. It is deserving of a dignified and iconic symbol, representing the people and its government in a unit.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My second submission is a much more iconic and unique flag. A navy-blue field extends from the bottom hoist to a white diagonal stripe, 1/3 the flags height, which spans from the top hoist to the bottom fly, leaving an aqua triangle in the top fly corner. In the center, a red star, with a total diameter of 5/18 the flag's height. The flag is 3:5 in proportion. The stripe represents a coast on Lake Michigan's SW side, or Illinois as a whole between great rivers, and a star for its individuality.

172

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is a beautiful state, one of my ancestors, one of my friends, and one i have fondly visited. It is deserving of a dignified and iconic symbol, representing the people and its government in a unit.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My third submission is an alternative color option. A red field extends from the bottom hoist to a white diagonal stripe, 1/3 the flags height, which spans from the top hoist to the bottom fly, leaving an aqua triangle in the top fly corner. In the center, a red star, with a total diameter of 5/18 the flag's height. The flag is 3:5 in proportion. The stripe represents a coast on Lake Michigan's SW side, or Illinois as a whole between great rivers, and a star for its individuality.



173

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here my whole life I'm 23

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I kept the the same style of the old flag style to keep the original feeling but with the new taste. The Eagle symbol strength and togetherness as a state,. The flowers , butterfly , the white tale deer and the white pine tree are all symbols of the state you will see in the state of Illinois.



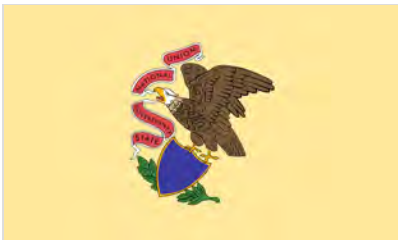
174

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

At my high school, there was a pre-1969 Illinois flag which hung at the entrance, yellowed by the sun. The simple changes my design suggests are meant to modernize the original design while capturing that welcoming feeling from my childhood. Central to this is the simplified copy of the 1915 design and the cream field in place of harsh white.



175



Relationship to Illinois

I live there and Chicago yeah

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My cat is the greatest in existence + ilinoise and also fire cuz the state fire and also pink cuz why not also Jb Pritzker pls give me four trillion bucks

176



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and lived in the state for 23 years. I went to college at the University of Illinois at Springfield. I only recently moved out of the state due to a job opportunity, but visit often to see family in McHenry and in Springfield. My soon to be wife lived in Illinois up until this past year when we moved. I look back fondly on my time in Illinois and the people I knew. While I now live in Minnesota, Illinois is still the state I was born and raised in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange stands for pumpkins/prairie, the blue for major rivers on which the state was built and for Lake Michigan. The blue/white stripes are made into a wave to represent the rivers/roads. The Chicago star is put into a belt of three stars to represent Orion's belt, a part of major constellation seen year-round from Illinois. The central star is a representation of the flower called the prairie star, a flower that grows around the state and pulls in Illinois' moniker of the Prairie State.

177



Relationship to Illinois

I am a new resident to Illinois. I took a job working at the University of Illinois Springfield.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue lines represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, along with all the waterways of Illinois. The yellow star with the red star on top embody the sunburst from the old flag while also honoring the yellow wheat/ag of Illinois. It is placed on a white background.

178



Relationship to Illinois

New resident, moved to work at University of Illinois Springfield

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue stripes represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river and all waterways in Illinois. The circle of 20 stars honor the 20 states that came before Illinois, and our historical aspects of flags, and the large gold star represents Illinois. Yellow was chosen to honor our agriculture.

179



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 18 years, but have visited for over 25 and have been inspired by the artistic flair of Chicago and the state since I was a child. This includes the great typography used in Chicago in places like O'Hare, the CTA, and other places. Currently I am a Professor at UIUC with an appreciation for graphic design, and my son is pursuing a degree in Graphic Arts at ISU.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is inspired by the iconic 1980's license plates and the simple and clean graphic design and typography of those plates. These plates have been entered into many movies that feature Illinois and Chicagoland, including Planes, Trains, and Automobiles, Adventures in Babysitting, and National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation. Graphically, it could represent the blue sky over the snow-covered winter prairie, with the two tall letter-Ls representing the Willis Tower and John Hancock Buildings.

180



Relationship to Illinois

Life long resident of the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The silhouette of Abe Lincoln in the center represents the president as he is a famous celebrity of the state with the motto "Land of Lincoln." The gold yellow represents the corn grown in the prairie fields across the state; it's also a huge crop here too. The blue violet represents the state flower, the Blue Violet.

181

Relationship to Illinois

Have lived here for 18 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Fleur-de-lis for the French connection prior to the Louisiana Purchase, the cross of St George for the English connection, green for the Irish plus the plentiful cornfields, the two green strips also representing the Illinois and the Mississippi River, and navy and orange for da Bears and University of Illinois



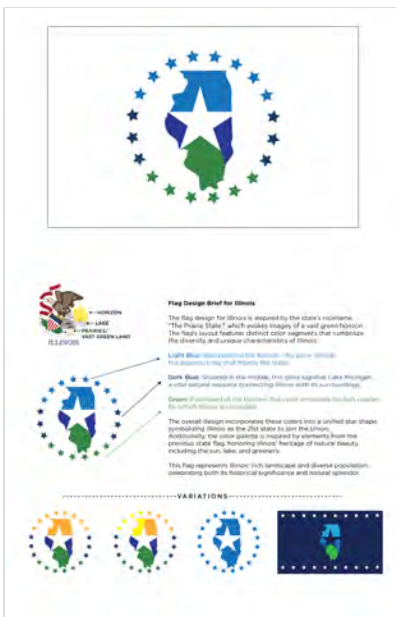
182

Relationship to Illinois

I immigrated to Illinois in 1996 and have since fallen deeply in love with the state. I graduated from the School of the Art Institute, got married, and started a family here. Illinois' unmatched history, from its role in the American Midwest's development to its vibrant cultural evolution, deeply resonates with me. I treasure the state's diverse culture, stunning landscapes, and remarkable architecture. The expansive spaces make me feel connected, and my family and I have a profound affection f

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Illinois flag design reflects the state's nickname, "The Prairie State," with colors symbolizing its landscape. Light Blue represents the sky, Dark Blue stands for Lake Michigan, and Green embodies the prairies. Arranged in a star shape, the colors honor Illinois as the 21st state and pay tribute to elements from the previous flag. The design celebrates Illinois' natural beauty and diverse heritage.



183

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

Here is my second design, which refines the original elements into a more visually cohesive composition. The eagle and shield are prominently featured, maintaining their connection to the Illinois state flag. This design enhances the visual impact while preserving the symbolic integrity of the original concept



184

Relationship to Illinois

I have several family members in Illinois, and have visited it a lot. The earliest trip outside Indiana that I can remember was to Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bar in the center represents the many rivers that define the geography Illinois. The two red shapes on each side are based off the state borders of Illinois. The 3 gold stars represent Illinois' status as a leader in the US, with Chicago being a hub of transportation, trade, and culture. The colors of white & red are, of course, the main colors of Illinois.



185

Relationship to Illinois

I currently live in Illinois and was born here as well. I came back to Illinois for college and I decided to stay after graduating.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a rainbow background, celebrating the vibrant LGBTQ culture in Illinois as well as the racial and ethnic diversity that makes this state great. The Chinese text is there to represent our fantastic Chinese community, the largest in the midwest. It reads, "Peace and joy, independent nation" which is what this state should aspire to be. In the center, is an outline of the great state itself with our most famous person, Abraham Lincoln, blushing to be honored to be on this flag.



186

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Hainesville Illinois which is the oldest village in Lake county. I've always loved this state and wouldn't trade it for the world. Between the bustling city of Chicago with its amazing food great community and the quiet countryside with quaint towns and fields of crops and everything in between I am proud to call this state my home and would love to be a small part of its history just like my villages founder Elijah Haines 2x speaker of the Illinois house.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star shape on the flag references Chicagos flag and each point represents Illinois former territories. 21 stars for 21st state while keeping Union and State Sovereignty separate. The flags design reflects Illinois role as a cultural, rail and industrial hub. Blue symbolizes the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, red represents railroads and roads, white nods to our original flag, gold signifies our agriculture and farmers. This flag complements the Chicago and US flags when flown together.



187

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189

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and continue to live in northern Illinois, having never lived anywhere else. I also, with any luck at all, don't think I ever will. I value our state for the way that it has continued to reaffirm its commitment to social justice and rights for all of its citizens, and I have a lasting passion for its wildlife and natural environments. Simultaneously, I would like my flag designs to reference, if in some small way, the manmade art and architecture that the state is known for.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag depicts a golden stretch of Prairie State prairie, with a sunrise over the flat land. The sun gives off 18 rays in total; the flag also features 18 V-shapes, for the year 1818. The 3 geometric shapes in the lower half are stylized depictions of rays over the land, but the shape language also subtly evokes the prairie style of design. Can also be interpreted as pathways converging toward the sun, representing the many drawn to Illinois by its opportunities and commitment to civil rights.

190

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my entire life. For the first 18 years I grew up in the suburbs. Then, I went to school at Northwestern in Evanston for 4 years before finally moving to Chicago where I live now. I've criss-crossed my way throughout the entire state, including a stop in Springfield a few years ago when I was a guest of honor on the state assembly floor. In my perspective, there would be no greater honor than to be the creator of the flag to the place I've called home for 26 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark blue is the night sky and is the same color blue as on the American flag. The white star in the night sky is taken from the Chicago flag (& located in the top right corner, where Chicago is on the state map). The green and yellow on the bottom half are two hues of agriculture crops to pay tribute to the what built Central and Southern Illinois (corn, soybeans, etc.). The light blue (same color as Chicago flag) illustrates the southern border of the state (Mississippi & Ohio rivers)

191

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192

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

Milkweed (state wildflower) is silhouetted against a white background, as if by hopeful sunlight. Milkweed is a keystone species, and a variety of animals depend on it; it therefore can symbolize communities growing together. Two middle sets of leaves evoke the shape of the monarch butterfly, state insect and symbol of hope. 18 white lines in total reference the year 1818. On either side, blue curves represent the Mississippi and Lake Michigan, which help define our borders and our culture.



193

Relationship to Illinois

I live in the state. I am a senior at Stevenson high school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to create a logo that featured a dramatic pulling away from the page effect. I incorporated the eagle to represent the United States as the first chapter of a book about the country, and the next page would feature the Illinois state and its fields and water bodies with the gorgeous sunset.



194

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois and Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I updated the flag and seal of Illinois. I used the Republic statue from the Chicago worlds fair of 1893. Which a replica of it resides in Jackson Park on the south side. I also added the corn flower stalk as representation of the Illinois prairie. Our state motto state sovereignty national Union. And the date we became at state in 1818. Lastly an eagle to represent the United States and 4 stars again to represent Chicago's importance to Illinois and the Midwest.



195

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois after attending college here to live on the banks of the Fox River.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design is meant to invoke native bead work found on traditional clothing. The Blue and Orange color pattern is bold and uniquely Illinois. The six pointed star is a reference to Chicago, and the 4 stacked triangles on the left hand side of the field represents the agriculture backbone of the state.

196



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Park Forest, Illinois and lived in the state until 2022, however I still commute to and from there frequently.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bar at the bottom represents the Illinois River, and the sex red stars in the upper left corner represent the original tribes of Illinois (the Ho-Chunk, the Dakota, the Chickasaw, the Illini, the Miami, and the Shawnee).

197



Relationship to Illinois

I live in the state. I am a senior at Stevenson high school.

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198



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since I was 2. I don't think I could live anywhere else. Illinois is such a beautiful blend between beautiful landscapes, developed cities and historial sites.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is meant to represent the 3 things I love about Illinois. The orange represent the organic colors of the sky, ground, and plants (including our abundance of agriculture). The Chicago blue represents the great cities of (not just Chicago proper). Finally, it only seems fitting to bring a symbol of the greatest US president who came from our state. Feel free to make any changes that are needed. I am not a professional. Just a citizen who loves her state.

199

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in rural Illinois for most of my life. Throughout high school, I competed in FIRST robotics, Envirothon, and Masonic Scholastic Bowl on the state level. Currently, I am attending Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Centered in the flag is the star representing Illinois on the national flag, surrounding that is a ring of 102 segments, representing Illinois's counties. The coloration of the segments represent the proportion of Illinois that was forested (green) and prairie (yellow) prior to settlement. The flag is designed to invoke feelings of nature while being bold and distinctive.



200

Relationship to Illinois

I am 18 years old and a lifelong resident, born in Moline and currently living in Rock Island. My parents were also born and raised in this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is divided into 7 stripes, in a pattern of white and blue alternating. The biggest blue stripe represents Lake Michigan while the smaller blue stripes represent the state's various rivers such as the Mississippi and the Illinois. The center blue stripe contains 20 smaller stars surrounding a center star, which represent Illinois as the 21st state. The small white stripes represent the state's industry and commerce while the bigger white stripes represent the state's agriculture.



201

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A three tipped star for the three main areas of Chicago. A Grey shape to represent the shape of Illinois and grey for industrial cities like Chicago. A yellow strip for the crops. And a large green area for the Great Plains



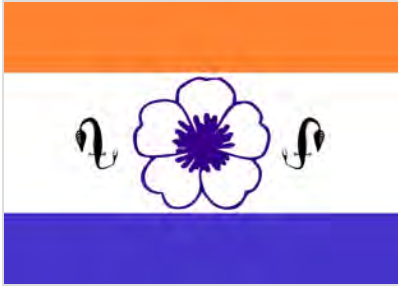
202

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident, born and raised, right here in the heartland and capital of our state: Springfield. I also frequent Chicago every now and then to enjoy the culture there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange represents our states agriculture, which we are a world leader of in production, while the deep blue represents our states efforts in science and industry, again which we are leaders in. The Violet in the center is our states flower; yet it is also a wild flower, a nod to our state being the "Prairie State". The ornamental leaflets on each side of the violet are actually Tully Monsters, our state fossil, which is only found in Illinois and points to our States unique past.



203

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Springfield, the capital of our state. I make frequent trips to both the Chicago area, as well as the Little Egypt area in the southern end of the state, so I feel like I understand the culture across the state. I love my home state, it's unique history and all it has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange represents our states agriculture, which we are a world leader of in production while the deep blue represents our states efforts in science and industry again which we are leaders in. Flower in the center is our states flower yet it is also a wild flower a nod to our state being the Prairie State. The ornamental leaflets on each side of the violet are actually Tully Monsters our state fossil which is only found in Illinois and points to our States unique past. Flower realistic now



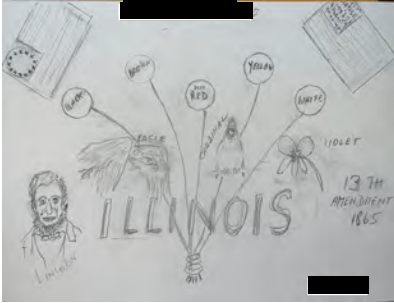
204

Relationship to Illinois

Uploaded by MMiller

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Uploaded by MMiller - Background Color is seaweed green (agriculture), correct number of stars and stripes on each flag (13-50), balloon colors appropriate race (IL represents all), cardinal state bird (red), state flower violet (violet), bald eagle (independence, freedom, strength), Pres. Lincoln (IL favorite), 13th Amendment (abolish slavery), Illinois (outline in dark grey and white inside letters), picture in front s/b in middle of flag



205

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, Illinois. I moved away when I was a young child, but I returned as an adult and I've lived here now for 11 years. To me, Illinois is a land of opportunity. Before moving here, I was a listless, awkward twenty-something, but Illinois is where I found my confidence, met my wife, and grew my career.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripes represent the Mississippi, Illinois, Kaskaskia and Ohio rivers. Orange represents pumpkins, harvest, and agriculture. The orange stripes also form the abbreviation for Illinois, "Ill." The stars on the flag combine iconography from the flags of state's capital, Springfield, and the state's largest city, Chicago. The circle of 21 stars represents Illinois as the 21st state and represents the state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union."



206

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, and while I moved away as a young child, I returned as an adult. I've lived here now for 11 years. It is where I've found my confidence, it is where I met my wife, and it is where I've grown my career. To me, Illinois is a land of opportunity.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe on the hoist side of the flag represents the Mississippi River. The yellow kernels next to it represents corn, agriculture and the prairie grasses of the Prairie State, with 21 kernels to represent Illinois as the 21st state. The state animal, the white-tailed deer, is represented in the middle of the flag, while a six-pointed star representing Chicago is in the upper-right, on the banks of a blue triangle that represents Lake Michigan.

207

Relationship to Illinois

Life long resident of this state of Illinois. My origins trace back to my Native American Ancestors that were here before Illinois was formed. In fact my Native tribe of the Kickapoo was in the settlement along the Embarrass River north of Greenup, closer to an obsolete town of Diona. My mother's middle name was an American Indian name of "Oeina." Then, on my dad's side we have a picture of my Great, Great Grandmother that was a full blooded Cherokee. My ancestors are buried within 20 mi. of me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have lived in this wonderful state my entire life of 63 years. During that 63 years I have watched the degradation and freedoms lost in this state. Usually, Chicago or East St Louis are mentioned, but the rest of the state is penalized for these people behaving poorly. Then, those in charge are blaming the tools used and not the minds of those doing evil. I am submitting what Illinois actually represents as it has fallen to. Illinois has become a state of suppression of the people.

208

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, and while I moved away when I was a young child, I returned as an adult. I've lived in Illinois for eleven years now. It is where I found my confidence, met my wife, and grew my career. To me, Illinois is a land of opportunity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is known as both "The Land of Lincoln" and "The Prairie State" and both of those concepts are represented here. The profile of Abraham Lincoln looks forward to the future, colored navy blue to suggest loyalty and integrity. The large field of gold represents the prairie, corn, agriculture, and prosperity. Then in the upper left corner, there is a six-pointed star to represent Chicago.



209

Relationship to Illinois

My wife and I have lived our entire lives in Illinois. Both born in Chicago, both grew up in the suburbs, and both attended Illinois universities. We continue to raise our family in Channahon, Illinois where we have lived for 22 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design simplifies the previous flag while still incorporating elements like the US Coat of Arms. The shield is now shown with 20 stars with an additional larger star outside representing Illinois and its place as the 21st state. The color bars represent our sunny skies and furthermore suggest a GOLDen future on the horizon. BLUE for our beautiful lakes and rivers and their importance in transit commerce, and finally a lush GREEN for our land, state parks, agriculture, and farming.



210

Relationship to Illinois

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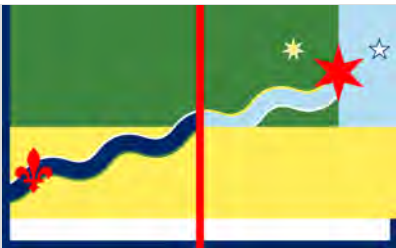
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211

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for each of my 26 years. I was born and raised in the suburbs, have lived in Bridgeport and Hyde Park, and lived downstate in my time at UIUC. I feel at home both in the city and in the country. In my job now, I travel all across the state to make deliveries. I believe that my perspective as a well-rounded Illinoisan can speak for both the Chicago civilian, and for the rest of our state's diverse citizenry.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Symbols and colors are meant to represent both the physical and social geography of Illinois. Green-northern IL riverlands. Corn (yellow)-central IL prairies. White - southern IL. Blue and wavy lines-the many rivers of Illinois including the IL Waterway. 6-pointed star-Chicago. 7-pointed star-Cook and other suburban counties, inspired by Cook Co. flag. Fleur-des-lis represents St. Louis and our French explorative history. All colors exact to current IL flag + red & blue from Chicago's flag.

212

Relationship to Illinois

My wife and I have lived our entire lives in Illinois. Both born in Chicago, both grew up in the suburbs, and both attended Illinois universities. We continue to raise our family in Channahon, Illinois where we have lived for 22 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

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213

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design simplifies the previous flag while still incorporating elements like the US Coat of Arms. The shield is now shown with 20 stars with an additional larger star outside representing Illinois and its place as the 21st state. The color bars represent our sunny skies and furthermore suggest a GOLDen future on the horizon. BLUE for our beautiful lakes and rivers and their importance in transit commerce, and finally a lush GREEN for our land, state parks, agriculture, and farming.



214

Relationship to Illinois

My wife and I have lived our entire lives in Illinois. Both born in Chicago, both grew up in the suburbs, and both attended Illinois universities. We continue to raise our family in Channahon, Illinois where we have lived for 22 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

ALT: This design simplifies the previous flag while still incorporating elements like the US Coat of Arms. The shield is now shown with 20 stars with an additional larger star outside representing Illinois and its place as the 21st state. The color bars represent our sunny skies and furthermore suggest a GOLDen future on the horizon. BLUE for our beautiful lakes and rivers and their importance in transit commerce, and finally a lush GREEN for our land, state parks, agriculture, and farming.



215

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 1975 and have lived here my entire life as a native Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

As "The Land of Lincoln," my new Illinois State flag design features a white centered profile silhouette of Abraham Lincoln looking forward toward the future. The green background with gold vertical lines represents both our historic tall grass prairies and our state's rich agriculture fields of corn, soybeans, wheat, etc. The four 6-pointed stars as a group are meant to be a direct tie to Chicago, our main industrial city, as well as represent the four main agricultural regions of the state.



216

Relationship to Illinois

When I think of home, I think of Illinois. I spent 8 of my most formative years living in Buffalo Grove, IL. I am a proud graduate of the Illinois public school system, having attended Adlai E. Stevenson High School. I was honored to serve my state as an intern for State Senator Adriane Johnson and support the state in its COVID recovery efforts while in college. The majority of my family still lives in Illinois, and I created this submission while in my grandparents' house in Libertyville.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

While researching the history of our current flag, I found a photo of Ella Park Lawrence holding the flag in 1915. I was deeply moved by this rich history and the effort that went into designing the original flag, and wanted to honor that legacy in my design by incorporating key elements, such as the shield and eagle wings. I also referenced the centennial flag by Wallace Rice through using the same shade of blue in that flag for my background. I hope my submission reads as clean and effective.

217

Relationship to Illinois

As a native of the Consitution State aka State of Connecticut, my connection to Illinois began when I met my fiancée in Colorado a few years ago. We conducted thorough research to find the best place to raise a family and ensure safety for LGBTQ+ individuals. Illinois emerged as our top choice due to its welcoming environment and other favorable aspects.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag designed for Illinois features key elements representing the state's identity. The white-tailed deer, the state animal, symbolizes Illinois' rich wildlife. The violet, the state flower, highlights the importance of nature conservation. The phrase "Land of Lincoln" honors Abraham Lincoln, emphasizing the state's historical significance. While the AI-generated flag captures these elements, the landscape should better reflect Illinois' diverse scenery, such as prairies and for

218



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Belleville, IL have lived here my whole life! I love Illinois through and through!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I believe that taking pieces of the original flag and inspiring them with a new overall flag design. Adding the blue adds depth to our state flag and catches the eye.

219



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in IL and have continued to live here and raise my family here as well! We love IL!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag integrates original design from previous flag but adds depth and strength to it with its bold character.

220



Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and live here still with my family now. We all love IL so much!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Taking original objects from our current flag and blending them with a newer age design. Adding the blue really adds character and strength.

221



Relationship to Illinois

Lived here almost all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green and yellow represents the farming community in Illinois. The dark solid line represents Lake Michigan. The red stars represents Chicago. I tried to capture the whole state. I made the flag simple and colorful, the way some other states have done. Easily recognizable.

222

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in and current resident of Illinois. Graduate of Illinois public schools through 12th grade, and the University of Chicago Law School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On a white field, a blue square in the upper fly, with blue strips along the hoist and bottom. In the lower fly, green to a diagonal from the blue square to where the blue strips meet. In the upper field is a white star on a blue background. The white field is from the current flag. The blue square and strips represent our state's major waterways. The green represents our farmlands. The white star on blue background is from the Illinois Centennial flag design submitted by Wallace Rice in 1918.



223

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Springfield, Illinois and have been an Illinois boy (a 'nois bois) my entire life. I moved to Evanston in 2004 to attend Northwestern University, and I now live in Chicago with my wife and our 3yr old daughter.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

21-petal prairie flower honors Illinois as the 21st state
Red center represents our vibrant, close-knit communities
White petals symbolize our renewed commitment to honest government
Zigzag edge evokes Lincoln's split-rail fence, honoring our greatest son
Central placement shows Illinois as the dynamic heart of the Midwest
Blue background depicts our vital waterways: Mississippi River and Lake Michigan
Red, white, and blue affirm our dedication to the Union and American ideals



224

Relationship to Illinois

I have made Illinois my home for the past 11+ years, and have no plans to leave!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue (the same blue as on the Chicago flag) represents the IL waterways, particularly Lake Michigan in the northeast (the upper right portion of the flag) and the Mississippi River on the western border (the left portion). The middle stripe represents IL's rich agricultural industry as well as its nickname as "The Prairie State". The thin violet stripes represent IL's state flower (the violet). Finally, the stars represent IL's three geographic divisions: North, Central, and South.



225

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 12 years which is my entire life. I have researched the history and meaning behind the past flags of Illinois. Lastly, I live in Wilmette, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe on the left represents the mighty Mississippi River. The blue stripe on the right symbolizes Lake Michigan, and the Chicago river. The red stripe on the left portrays the founding of our state, and the red stripe on the right displays the Chicago fire, a very important event that helped with our states growth in the long run. The grass is prairie grass found everywhere in Illinois, thus the state's nickname, the Prairie State. The 21 stars symbolize Illinois being the 21 state.



226

Relationship to Illinois

I live and learn in Wilmette, Illinois and I have learned what a good flag and a bad flag is through the ted talk on it. I know the history of Illinois state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the lake and the rivers. The black star depicts its architecture and luxury. The red star means of the blood and sweat that Chicago has gone through. And the green illustrates the many prairies Illinois has.



227

Relationship to Illinois

I am originally from Illinois. I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I was born in Chicago and lived there for most of my life. I currently live in Wilmette, Illinois and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I am in 6th grade. I have learned a lot about Illinois in my 6th grade integrated global studies class. I really like Illinois because of all of its different natural features. Something that I really love doing in Illinois is go to apple orchards with my friends and family.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my Integrated Global Studies class, we watched the TED talk about good flag design. The six pointed star on my flag stands for the urban areas, labor, the diverse population of Illinois, independence from Indiana in 1818, the youth of Illinois, and the hard working public workers. The river displays all of the Mississippi and the yellow shows agriculture.

228

Relationship to Illinois

i was born in chicago,illinois on [REDACTED] 2013. I live and go to school in Wilmette, illinois. I am very proud to live in illinois. I love all the major cities in illinois. I moved to Wilmette on August 4th 2020. I love the Chicago flag which is why I made part of it part of my Illinois flag submission. I took inspiration for my flag from the Springfield flag. I think it goes well because Springfield is the capital of illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I watched the TED talk on what a good flag should look like. I saw all the rules. The beige side represents the many prairies in illinois. The green side illustrates the habitat of the state animal, the white tailed deer, which are forests or fields. The light blue stripe exhibits how Illinois has a bunch of water. The star represents the star on the Springfield flag, the capital of illinois.

229

Relationship to Illinois

Please provide your relationship to Illinois: I have lived in Illinois all my life and I have a passion to study about Illinois and I go to school in Illinois. Illinois matters to me because I love how many prairies are in Illinois and the hiking like at Starve Rock. I also love how rich the land is in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Explain the meaning behind your flag: I am familiar with the Five Flag Design Principles from "Good Flag, Bad Flag" so I have some experience with drawing flags. On my flag the green portion stands for the prairies and the blue portion under it stands for Lake Michigan. The yellow star in the center stands for how much light are in people from Illinois from the term "Midwest nice" and how wealthy the soil is in Illinois. The and the final detail which is the light blue portion of the flag means hope.

230

Relationship to Illinois

Entire life and I am very proud to be a citizen of Illinois. I have learned all about Illinois in my international global studies class.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

the red in the flag stands for the Chicago fire. Blue represents Lake Michigan and the Chicago river. The breaking tree of the handcuffs represents freedom. The star represents how I am proud to be a citizen of Illinois.

231

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life and I am very proud to live in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue stripes on the side of my flag depicts the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The yellow box in the middle portrays the huge amount of farmland in Illinois. Finally the handcuffs breaking represents Illinois being the first state to abolish slavery.

232

Relationship to Illinois

I go to school in Wilmette and I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I had first lived in Chicago but then moved to Wilmette in 2016 when I was three years old about to turn four. I have learned a lot about the culture and history of Illinois and I have grown to be very interested in the history of Illinois and would be very happy if you chose my flag as the flag of the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that the blue on my flag symbolizes the bodies of water in Illinois. The orange represents the state pie which is pumpkin pie and lastly the yellow star in the middle represents the corn that Illinois grows. I hope this informs you on what is on my flag and what it symbolizes.



233

Relationship to Illinois

I moved here from California and have been living here for 2 years and am very fascinated by the state's history and culture.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I'm familiar with the flag design principles from "good flag, bad flag". I have practice drawing flags. The middle blue stripe represents the Mississippi River. The two blue stripes represent the Chicago rivers. The yellow side of the flag represents crops in Illinois. The green side represents fields and farms of Illinois. The large blue section on top depicts Lake Michigan. The red star represents Springfield. The points of the star represent Chicago, Naperville, Aurora, Joliet and Rockford.



234

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Illinois so Illinois is a big part of me because it is my home state. I represent my state that I was born in and so does everybody else who was born in Illinois. I go to school in Wilmette Illinois which is a city north of Chicago and I am in IGS class at Highcrest Middle School in Wilmette Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue on my flag means freedom. The Green represents nature. The white shows the hope that we all have in each other. The black portrays the power that we all have. Finally we have pink and pink stands for how kind we all are to each other. These are the colors of my flag.

235

Relationship to Illinois



I have lived in Illinois for all my life and I know a good amount of the history of it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue on both ends of the flag represents the Mississippi River on the left side, and Lake Michigan on the right. The green part in the middle shows how Illinois is a very green state. The yellow star is at the center because the capital of Illinois is Springfield and it is at the center of the state.

236

Relationship to Illinois



I was born and partially raised in our capital for the first years of my life, started school in Riverton then moved to Kincaid where I remained for my high school career and a few years after. My entire family grew up here, and my grandparents before them. I was a school photographer and made my way around the state seeing all sorts of new places, I have a great love for this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose two subjects to display on the Illinois State flag, corn and the Chicago skyline, representing the differences in jobs and people in this state, from the little man to the big ones, and all the families in between.

237

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when I was four years old and I go to school in Wilmette. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I learned about Illinois in sixth grade integrated global studies class. I know that and I love living in Illinois because there is lots of space to play outside. That's why I love Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my integration, global studies class Highcrest middle school we watch TED talk about good flag and bad flag design familiar with flag designs I know the five flag's principles. I participated in designing flags at school. The blue on my flag will represent the lakes, rivers and Lake Michigan. The red will represent bravery at my flag, and the green represent the crops, land in Illinois, and the red star represents the state bird the cardinal that's why I love Illinois.

238

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I have lived here my whole life and I love this state. The state is one of the best states and has a lot of natural lands in outdoor stuff and that's what makes the state really good and with Chicago and Illinois. It's one of the best cities in Illinois. That's why I love Illinois. I was born in Illinois and I have lived here my whole life and I love this state. The state is one of the best states and has a lot of natural lands in outdoor stuff and that's what makes the state go



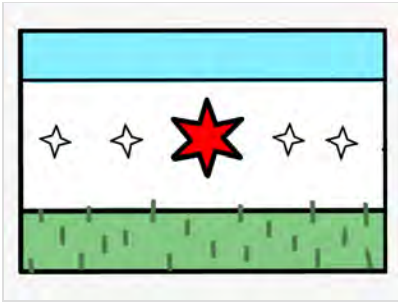
Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my integration, global studies class at school watch TED talk about good design and are familiar with the flag design principles from good flag bad flag. In class this is what my flag says about Illinois. The blue on the left represents the water in Illinois. The green in the middle represents the land in Illinois and all the crops that we grow here. The red will represent bravery in Illinois and the red star in the middle represents cardinals. That's how my flag represents Illinois.

239

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] and I've lived in Illinois my entire life. I live with my one sister and my two parents. Long before I was born Chicago Illinois was my fathers dream so to no one's surprise I was born in Chicago. Soon after I was born we had to move due to the dangerous area we lived in. For my sister and I's safety we moved to the suburbs, in other words Wilmette. Wilmette is where I've lived from that day till now and I can easily say I'm proud to be a resident of the state of illinois.



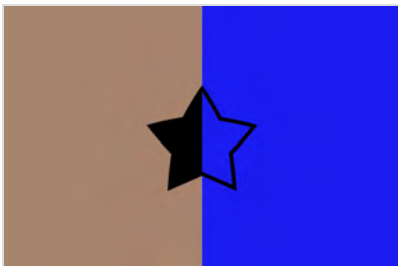
Explain the meaning behind your flag

There is a lot of hidden meaning behind the flag. The large blue line represents the Mississippi River. You'll recognize the large star in the center which is on the flag of Chicago. The two stars on either side hint to Springfields' flag where the stars also appear. The reason there are four stars is for the four presidents that call Illinois their home. Below is a large green slate showing fields of prairie. There also happens to be 21 prairie grass, this is because Illinois is the 21st state.

240

Relationship to Illinois

When I was a 4 year old I moved to Illinois. I used to live in England. But I've lived in Illinois for 7 years, almost 8. I go to school in Wilmette where I have learned about flags.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The brown symbolizes the underground railroad because a big part of that was in Illinois it also represents the color of the state animal, the prairie. The blue displays Lake Michigan because it is in Illinois. And finally the half star represents the union because Illinois was one of the first states to disband slavery.

241

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL in 2013 and have lived here my whole life and can't imagine living elsewhere. I have studied flag design in my Integrated Global Studies course at Highcrest Middle School in Wilmette IL. I love IL.



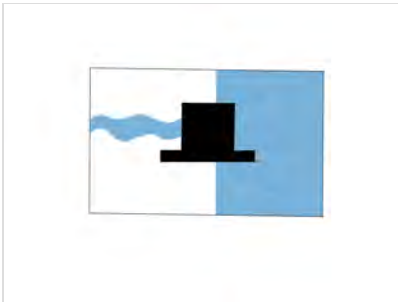
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The brown background of my flag shows all the fields with brown crops. The blue stripes represent lake MI (left) and the rivers (right). The circle shows all the nice people together in IL. The white tailed deer shows our state animal (white tailed deer). It's green because of the prairie in IL. On one side of the deer there are two stars and on the other side there is one. That is 2-1 or 21 and we were the 21st state in the country. They are red to represent the challenges the state has faced.

242

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, Illinois. I have lived here for my entire life. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I have learned a lot about flag design, and Illinois in 6th grade integrated global studies.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

On the right side of my flag it shows the blue which represents Lake Michigan. On the left side of my flag the blue represents the Mississippi River. The 4 wiggly lines on the right represent the 4 presidents that call Illinois there home. And in the middle there is Abraham Lincoln's hat. That is there because people call Illinois the land of Lincoln. And because Illinois was the first state to sign the no slavery amendment to the constitution because of Lincoln.

243

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I moved to the state in 2020 in the middle of the Covid-19 Pandemic and I moved to Wilmette. Once I arrived in Wilmette, all of the people of Illinois were welcoming to me. Now I attend Highcrest Middle School in Integrated Global Studies, where we watched the TED Talk on Good Flag Design. Now I hope that my flag will be hanging above Springfield Illinois, my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is the blue portion of my flag represents the beautiful rivers and lakes of Illinois. The Purple portion of my flag symbolizes the state flower, the violet. The Green portion of my flag shows the prairies, the forests and the woods that surround the state and the large corn export that the state provides. Lastly, the 3 stars portrays the 3 presidents that came from the Prairie State and the flag of Springfield, Chicago and The USA.

244

Relationship to Illinois

Hi my name is [REDACTED] and i have lived in Illinois my entire life. I love Illinois and everything about it. I love all of the fun things we can do here. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I am so thankful to be a part of the Illinois community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my Integrated Global Studies class we have been learning about flags so we decided to make flags for Illinois. My flag has two stripes, one stripe is blue and one is yellow. The blue represents the water that we have and the yellow represents the happiness for our state. The star in the middle of the flag shows the history of our state.

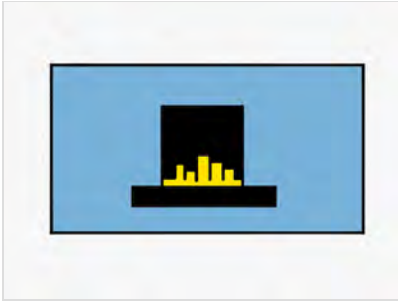
245

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago IL, and have lived here my entire life. I currently live and go to school in Wilmette, a suburb of Chicago. I am very proud to live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top hat represents the land of Lincoln and how Abraham Lincoln helped free slaves in Illinois and in the whole country. The yellow in the middle of the hat symbolizes many things including the Chicago skyline, a major city in Chicago, the prairies in Illinois, corn, sunshine, and how all the citizens are kind, welcoming and full of joy! The blue background portrays freedom and all of the lakes and rivers like the Chicago river, Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River.



246

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life, 11 years. I go to school in Wilmette, a suburb of Chicago. In my integrated global studies class, at Highcrest Middle School, We watched the TED talk about good flag designs. I take pride in living in one of the best states in the country.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue on my flags symbolizes the beautiful lakes and rivers, specifically Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The green part on my flag represents all of the prairie that Illinois is known for. The star in the middle stands for the 4 presidents that grew up in Illinois. Finally, the five points of the star represent Chicago the 3rd biggest city by population, one of the best hubs for transportation, freedom, equality, and all of the amazing sports teams we have.



247



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2013 and ever since I could remember, I fell in love with every part of Illinois. I live in Wilmette, and go to Highcrest Middle School. I love Illinois so much, and It has some of the nicest people I know in this state. I can't imagine not living here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is, the blue represents the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The 21 stars stands for Illinois being the 21st state ever made.

248



Relationship to Illinois

While not born or currently living in Illinois, I spent a lot of my life growing up in Buffalo Grove, having moved there when I was a toddler. This time spent there has had a lasting impact on my current life away from the state. I still feel a deep connection to Illinois and the Chicago metro area to this day and simply want to reflect that unique connect and impact with a better symbol for the state than a simple seal on a white banner.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Centennial flag is a very popular design to replace the current flag. Mine modifies that design for a more modern, more aesthetically pleasing look. It removes the 20 stars representing the slave and free states at the time of Illinois admission to the Union, as it's an outdated and distasteful symbol, and centers the star on the blue band for balance, as well as changing it to a more iconic 6-pointed star.

251

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] and I was born in Illinois in 2013. I have learned about Illinois in school. I know the history of Illinois. I have lived in IL for eleven years (since I was born here). I live in Wilmette IL. I love that the people in Illinois are so kind and that there is a lot of farmland here. I have traveled to most places in Illinois since my family goes on lots of road trips (mostly in Illinois).



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my flag the dark blue sky portrays freedom because during the Civil War Illinois had lots of freedom. The water shows Lake Michigan and the wavy line is the Mississippi River on the border. The one star symbolizes that Illinois was the first star to end slavery. The red in the star shows the warmth that Illinois gave the people during the times of the Underground Railroad. I have practiced making flags in school. And I am familiar with the “Good Flag, Bad Flag” book.

252

Relationship to Illinois

Have been a resident of Illinois since 1981 when I moved to Peoria, Illinois to take a job where I counseled troubled teens. After working with teens for several years, I then had several other jobs, one where I designed marketing materials for a United Way supported family counseling agency. It was here that I fell in love with graphic design and used various original graphics on agency brochures, annual reports, flyers and slide shows.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Simply put, this simple message is love. With so much division among the two political parties in these ugly political times, let us remember that love brings us all together. Love unifies. Love joins. Love wins. With Illinois being geographically placed in the heart of USA, let this Heart flag wave proudly, announcing that red and blue can live peacefully together and that the spirit of love will guide Illinois and the entire USA to greater healing. Today. Tomorrow. Forever.

253

Relationship to Illinois

At least a 4th generation Chicagoland native. Can't think of a better place to live. Big city amenities and culture with the natural scenic wonders all around. Thankful to be able to raise my children here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White background represents the flag flown by the French explorers who were the first Europeans in Illinois. White is also for peace and hope. Blue diagonal stripe represents the Illinois River, connecting the state, not dividing it. The 12 point star represents the 12 tribes of the Illini Confederacy. The white circle shows no group has central power, all must work together to make the image. Eagle represents strength, courage, and nobility. Black feathers represent protection.



254

Relationship to Illinois

I love the opportunities and advantages that growing up in Illinois has given me, and while I enjoy that I'm able to hike a glorious canyon and then go shopping on the Magnificent Mile in the same day, the thing that I love the most about Illinois is that I can be proud to live here, in a state that has become a haven for marginalized communities in our neighboring states, where you'll be welcomed with open arms, and your rights will be protected, no matter your gender, race, or religion.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features red, white and blue as the base colors that call back to the US flag, and includes 1818 as the year that Illinois became a state. The state of Illinois is outlined in green to represent our rich agriculture industry, and inside the state contains a scene depicting a prairie (we are The Prairie State), focusing on the violet, our state flower. 20 stars surround the state of Illinois, with the 21st star inside of the state, representing Illinois's distinction as the 21st state.



255

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 1981 when I moved to Peoria, Illinois to take a job where I counseled troubled teens. After working with teens for several years, I then had several other jobs, one where I designed marketing materials for a United Way supported family counseling agency. It was here that I fell in love with graphic design and used various original graphics on agency brochures, annual reports, flyers and slide shows.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design gives a nod to old and new. The contemporary design fits “the new.” The image of Lincoln fits the old. Since flags “wave” in the air, the images of Abe within the blue section at the bottom will look like actual waves upon the water, symbolizing that Abe's energy and flow continue to guide our State. The modern eagle with its eyes on Illinois symbolizes the spirit of decency, honesty and nobility as our State aims to achieve its loftiest goals and soar to its highest heights.

256

Relationship to Illinois

I love the opportunities and advantages that growing up in Illinois has given me, and while I enjoy that I'm able to hike a glorious canyon and then go shopping on the Magnificent Mile in the same day, the thing that I love the most about Illinois is that I can be proud to live here, in a state that has become a haven for marginalized communities in our neighboring states, where you'll be welcomed with open arms, and your rights will be protected, no matter your gender, race, or religion.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features red, white and blue as the base colors, calling back to the US flag, and includes 1818 as the year that Illinois became a state. Illinois is outlined in green to represent our rich agriculture industry, and contains the recognizable outline of the Chicago skyline, which fades into a depiction of a cornfield, representing our diversity in urban and rural environments. 20 stars surround Illinois, with a 21st star inside of the state representing Illinois being the 21st state.

257

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my entire life and have never had the urge to move out of state. I used to work for a boat touring company in Chicago called Shoreline, and tourists would always tell me how much they loved coming to Illinois because we have the friendliest people around and they always feel welcomed no matter where they're from. I think that's why I'm still here — the sense of community is strong no matter where you go in Illinois.



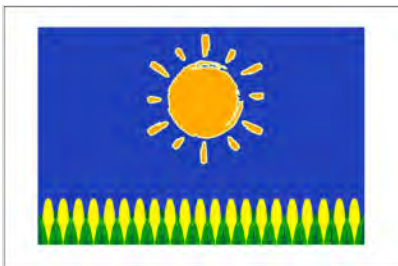
Explain the meaning behind your flag

White honors the original Illinois flag. Light blue is from the morning sky and the rivers and Lake Michigan, and dark blue is inspired by the sunset and Illinois branding. The shield reflects the original design. The common blue violet, Illinois' state flower, is featured, with a star representing the 5 major regions: Chicago Area, Northwestern, North Central, Central, and Southern. The lines forming the Vs symbolize the 3 rivers surrounding Illinois.

258

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 1981 when I moved to Peoria, Illinois to take a job where I counseled troubled teens. After working with teens for several years, I then had several other jobs, one where I designed marketing materials for a United Way supported family counseling agency. It was here that I fell in love with graphic design and used various original graphics on agency brochures, annual reports, flyers and slide shows.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design pays homage to Illinois being quintessentially Midwest. No palm trees in this design. No ice-capped mountains. This design shows what I love about Illinois when traveling throughout the State over the summer months. Corn growing everywhere, with such, blue, blue skies and that ever so warm summer sun. This is a welcoming image, with corn husks “touching hands” in unity for love of being right where they are, growing and preparing to feed appreciative Illinois citizens.

259

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Mundelein, IL for the past 20 years. I am a local artist who has several pieces of art on display in the village. I painted one of the Stars on Parade that is currently standing in front of Village Hall; another painting is a permanent part of a 9/11 memorial at our main fire station; and I was one of five artists to create the largest mural in Mundelein last summer. I thought I'd give it a try to design the next Illinois flag. I hope you like it...



Explain the meaning behind your flag

As to be the complete opposite of the current Illinois flag, mine is a very simple idea: Looking at the other 49 state flags, none have a green background. The green just makes the flag more inviting, I feel. Everyone knows what our state looks like so I included a dark green shape of Illinois along with an image of President Lincoln that I created in a painting I did. Finally, to have simple white letters for "Land of Lincoln" & "1818" makes the entire flag a lot easier to understand.

260

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I moved to the state in 2020 in the middle of the Covid-19 Pandemic and I moved to Wilmette. Once I arrived in Wilmette, all of the people of Illinois were welcoming to me. Now I attend Highcrest Middle School in Integrated Global Studies, where we watched the TED Talk on Good Flag Design. Now I hope that my flag will be hanging above Springfield Illinois, my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is the blue portion of my flag represents the beautiful rivers and lakes of Illinois. The Purple portion of my flag symbolizes the state flower, the violet. The Green portion of my flag shows the prairies, the forests and the woods that surround the state and the large corn export that the state provides. Lastly, the 3 stars portrays the 3 presidents that came from the Prairie State and the flag of Springfield, Chicago and The USA.

261

Relationship to Illinois

I emigrated to Illinois from the United Kingdom in 2015 and have resided in the state ever since. I was born with dual nationality to the UK and USA in California. Still, I consider Illinois my home state, as I spent my formative years as a tween and teenager residing and living in the state. I'm proud to represent the state as the state represents the best of me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is divided into three, with the blue representing the waters surrounding the state and the white representing the industry and cities that have arisen in Illinois. The green represents the agriculture and prairie that Illinois is known for. The two intersecting white lines represent the railroad industry, for which Illinois became the pumping heart of the nation. The 21-point stars also represent Illinois's becoming the 21st state in the union

262

Relationship to Illinois

I emigrated to Illinois from the United Kingdom in 2015 and have resided in the state ever since. I was born with dual nationality to the UK and USA in California. Still, I consider Illinois my home state, as I spent my formative years as a tween and teenager residing and living in the state. I'm proud to represent the state as the state represents the best of me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the state of Illinois through its state Animal. The white-tailed deer is in the middle, with a star on top representing Illinois as the 21st state in the Union. The ten stars on the top and the bottom represent the 20 states that came before it, with the dark blue representing the water surrounding Illinois and the green representing the agricultural and prairie lands of the state.

263

Relationship to Illinois

I emigrated to Illinois from the United Kingdom in 2015 and have resided in the state ever since. I was born with dual nationality to the UK and USA in California. Still, I consider Illinois my home state, as I spent my formative years as a tween and teenager residing and living in the state. I'm proud to represent the state as the state represents the best of me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 20-point star with the star in the middle represents Illinois as the 21st state in the Union; the star is blue in the middle to represent the freedom that Illinois has always stood for. The Blue on either side of the flag represents the water surrounding the state on nearly all sides, and the green represents the prairie lands the state is known for; the two white lines represent the railroad industry that made Illinois the heart of America.

264

Relationship to Illinois

The state I was born in and have lived in my whole life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe represents Illinois's connection to water, a vital resource that has shaped the state's history and economy. The white stripe symbolizes the state's agricultural heritage and the purity of its natural resources. The gold stripe represents Illinois's industrial might and economic prosperity, as well as the state's golden age of growth and development. The cornstalk emblem, surrounded by 13 stars, reinforces Illinois's status as a member of the United States and its enduring agricu



265

Relationship to Illinois

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266

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and have a deep interest in the state, our history, and vexillology. I know nearly every state, city, and country flag, and we have the best city flag in existence (except for the people who believe the District of Colombia flag is better, which is fair) and it would be great if we had a state flag to back up our amazing city of Chicago's outstanding flag! Illinois has deep history and while that shows in our current flag, so does its age.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

One of the most important aspects of a modern flag is to just keep the design simple. The design here with this one star tri-color design. The top and bottom blues are distinctive, with the bottom deep blue representing Lake Michigan, and the top light blue taken directly from our Chicago flag. In the middle, a 6 pointed star on a familiar red, identical to those seen on the Chicago Flag. I trust the Commission and the State of Illinois to come up with meaning behind the 6 points on the flag.

267

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for each of my 26 years. I've grown up in the suburbs, lived in the city, and even lived downstate while at UIUC. my job now brings me to every corner of this state making deliveries, so I believe that I have a well balanced view of the daily Illinoisan. I'm comfortable in the city, and in the country, and I believe that crucial perspective is why you should choose one of my designs.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A simplified version of my earlier designs. The main body of white/green/white represents the 3 distinct socioeconomic regions of the state. The blue represents Lake Michigan, the Mississippi, Ohio, Wabash Rivers & the Illinois Waterway, as well as their tributaries. The green 7-pointed star represents Cook and the suburban counties, inspired by the Cook Co. flag. The red symbols are for Chicago and St. Louis, with the added nod to our French exploratory history. Colors exact to current flag.

268

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois Military Veteran and Permanent Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I strongly believes that a State Flag should reflect the Pride, Strength and Virtues of the state. Illinois is full of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. We have a culture that embraces and supports people from from all backgrounds, including their race, religion, gender, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status. My flag submission depicts a circle of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion that encompasses our Land of Lincoln pride, heritage and state symbols in a simplistic and meaningful way.



269

Relationship to Illinois



I grew up in Northfield, Illinois and lived there full-time until I was 18 years old. My family on both sides are from the Northern Suburbs of Chicago and I still visit family every year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to include both Illinois rural and urban features. I have the rural farmland of Illinois represented in the bottom of my flag (fields leading to a city) and I have Chicago represented as being the focal point in the middle (a star to represent the Chicago flag).

270

Relationship to Illinois



I have lived in Illinois my entire life and have a deep interest in the state, our history, and vexillology. I know nearly every state, city, and country flag, and we have the best city flag in existence (except for the people who believe the District of Colombia flag is better, which is fair) and it would be great if we had a state flag to back up our amazing city of Chicago's outstanding flag! Illinois has deep history and while that shows in our current flag, so does its age.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

One of the most important aspects of a modern flag is to just keep the design simple. The design here with this one star tri-color design. The top and bottom blues are distinctive, with the bottom deep blue representing Lake Michigan, and the top light blue taken directly from our Chicago flag. In the middle, a 6 pointed star (revised) on red, identical to those seen on the Chicago Flag. I trust the Commission and the State of Illinois to come up with meaning behind the 6 points on the flag.

271

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident, born and raised here. I have moved away in the past but ended up back here in the state I love and have remained here for the past eight years. Serving our country in the Air Force has also given me a greater appreciation of our midwestern home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are 21 stars-20 normal stars on the outside, and 1 central star representing IL as the 21st state. Blue represents the water that is so important to our state. Red represents the bravery to stand up for what is right, echoing back to Illinois' stance during the Civil War and the Land of Lincoln. White background represents our past heritage and honors the previous state flags. Yellow represents the agriculture which is the backbone of our state.

272

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois, lived in the state for 18 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

16th US President and Illinoisan Abraham Lincoln is a symbol of our great state and his work in quashing The Confederacy in the American Civil War cannot be understated. The background color is meant to evoke that of a Union Army uniform of the period, with the red representing the blood he shed defending our democracy to the bitter end. Lincoln would be proud to fly this beautiful banner commemorating his achievements.



273

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I was born in 2004 in Illinois and have visited Chicago and the Capitol. If you can use my flag design, please give a big shout-out to my dad, David Steinke, who lives in Loves Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I have always enjoyed trains, including the Metra and CTA. I have also seen the "L" train in Chicago. The stars represent trains.



274



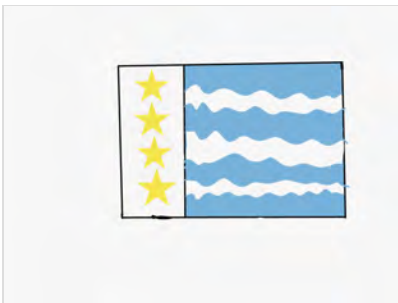
Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2012. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I have learned about Illinois at school. I love everything about Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I am familiar with the 5 flag design principles from the book “good flag bad flag”. In my flag the blue represents the water, rivers, lakes, and ponds. The green portrays grasslands and prairies in Illinois. The red 5 pointed star exhibits the city of Chicago.

275



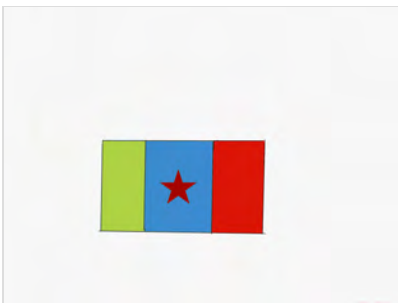
Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. I have lived there for 11 years. I go to school in Wilmette, I am very proud to live in illinois. I learned about flags in 6th grade integrated global studies class.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are 4 stars that symbolize the 4 main presidents Abraham Lincoln Ulysses.S grant Ronald Reagan. And Barack Obama. And the 4 blue streams are the 4 main rivers. The Mississippi, the Ohio, the Illinois, and Wabash. The blue also represents freedom. And the yellow means joy and creativity.

276



Relationship to Illinois

I moved into Illinois in 2021. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I am also proud to live in Illinois. I have learned about Illinois in 6th grade integrated global studies. I know the history of Illinois.

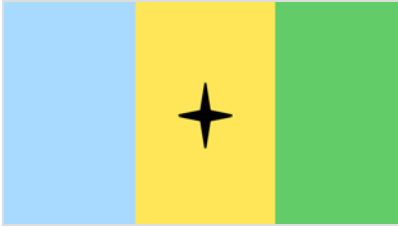
Explain the meaning behind your flag

I am familiar with the Five Flag design Principles from “good flag, bad flag”. The section to the left’s color means the blood our soldiers sacrificed in wars involved with the United States. The green color stands for the vast prairies Illinois had before settlers came in. The blue portrays the rivers of Illinois and Lake Michigan. The star in the center means the bravery of many Illinois soldiers that sacrificed themselves in the civil war.

277

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2012. I have lived here in this great state my whole life. I have been learning in depth about Illinois since third grade and I am fascinated everytime I learn a new piece of the rich history of this wonderful state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have practiced designing flags in school, and I am familiar with the five basic flag design principles. To start, the light blue in my flag represents the bodies of freshwater that are in and around our beautiful state. The yellow in my flag portrays the chronic show of freedom and the encouragement of freedom in our history. The green depicts the deep agricultural roots and the fertile prairie grounds of Illinois. Lastly, the black star symbolizes the people of Illinois.

278

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here in 2012. I am currently living in Illinois and have lived here for my whole life. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I am very confidential with the Five Flag Design Principles. The green on my flag depicts health, to show my wish that everyone in Illinois will have well health. The white symbolizes peace, and yellow means freedom. The color orange portrays my hope for the residents of Illinois to have happiness forever. Even though the flag may seem very simple, I believe it has a very deep meaning to it. I am certain that the citizens of this amazing state will want these representations to actually occur.

279



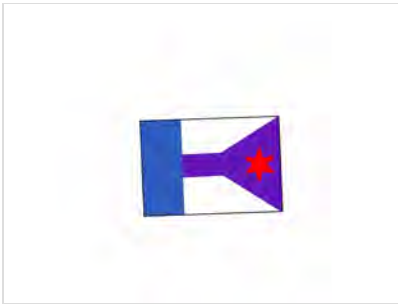
Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I was born here in 2013 and I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I Love everything about Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my integrated global studies class at Highcrest middle school we watched the good flag bad flag ted talk before I designed my flag. The red in my flag displays the great Chicago fire in 1871. The circle in the middle of my flag represents the Illinois great prairies. The blue in my flag represents the Gorgeous Great Lakes of Illinois.

280



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my whole life. I was born in Chicago, Illinois in 2013. This year in 6th grade, I have learned a lot about the history of Illinois in my Integrated Global Studies class. I love the culture of Illinois because it's so unique.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a big blue stripe to display the lakes and rivers in Illinois. The purple stripe that goes across the flag represents the state flower, which is a violet. Then the red star portrays the city Chicago, which is a big city in our state. And finally, the white in the flag stands for peace in our state.

281



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Cook County Illinois, and have my entire life. I live in Wilmette with my family of six and three cats. We enjoy going to Lake Michigan and biking around our town. I love how friendly Illinois is and how many different places there are to go.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red Illinois shape shows the bravery and strength of the state. The blue stripe represents the water in Illinois such as Lake Michigan and all of the other rivers and water resources running through Illinois. The yellow illustrates corn and other fields of grown food, it also stands for sun and freedom. And finally the green displays the land and open space where you can be yourself, it also shows hope.

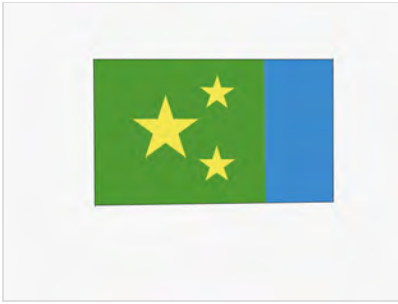
282

Relationship to Illinois

I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I am proud to live in Illinois and learned about Illinois in 6th grade Integrated Global class. I have lived in Illinois for most of my life although I was not born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green on my flag represents the vast land of Illinois. The blue depicts the major bodies of water in and around Illinois such as Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The large star in the center stands for Illinois as an anti-slavery state. The smaller star closer to the top shows the construction of the Underground Railroad which a major part of took place in Illinois. The star closer to the bottom symbolizes the indigenous people that lived in Illinois tens of thousands of years ago.



283

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Cook County Illinois for my whole life. I enjoy many things in Wilmette, Illinois which is where I live. I love going to swim in Lake Michigan. My dad loves to go fishing so I have been to many natural water forms in Illinois. I love history so I have learned lots of Illinois history and have learned a lot of history in my integrated global study's at Highcrest middle school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the water that goes all along the right side of Illinois. The yellow displays the prairies and Illinois rich farming history. The green portrays the many natural resources and forms. It also symbolizes the rich history of freedom in Illinois.



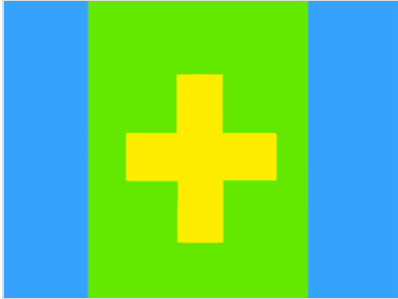
284

Relationship to Illinois

I am currently living in Illinois and have lived in Illinois for the last eleven years of my life. I was born in Chicago in 2013. I grew up and lived in Chicago for a while and then moved to Wilmette, a suburb neighboring Evanston. I am so proud to be a citizen of Illinois and be able to live in this amazing state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have created my flag following the Flag Design Principles from “Good Flag, Bad Flag”. I was able to create a flag made up of three colors that display Illinois’s rich culture and environment. On my flag, the color blue illustrates the well known Lake Michigan and the following rivers: Ohio, Mississippi, Wabash and Illinois. The blue also shows Illinois’s freedom. The color green symbolizes Illinois’s exotic natural environment. Lastly, yellow displays kindness and the sun.



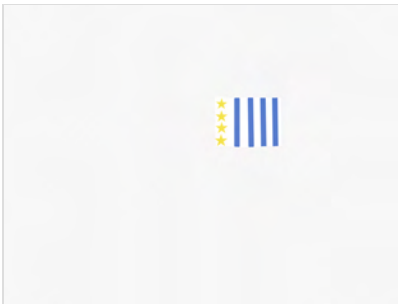
285

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life exactly 11 years. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I know the history of Illinois. I am very proud and happy to live in Illinois. It's such an amazing place. I love it!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 4 yellow stars equal the 4 presidents that called Illinois HOME which are Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Ronald Reagan, and Barack Obama. But they yellow in the stars equal peace and happiness because Illinois is a peaceful and happy place. The 4 blue stripes are equal to the 4 main rivers Illinois, Ohio, Wabash, Mississippi!



286

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I know the history of Illinois and want to share my knowledge of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my integrated global studies class I watched a TED talk about the flag principals. The 4 stars on my flag represent the 4 presidents that Called Illinois Home who are Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Ronald Reagan, and Barack Obama. The four blue stripes stand for the 4 main rivers. Illinois, Ohio, Mississippi, and Wabash are the 4 main rivers in Illinois.



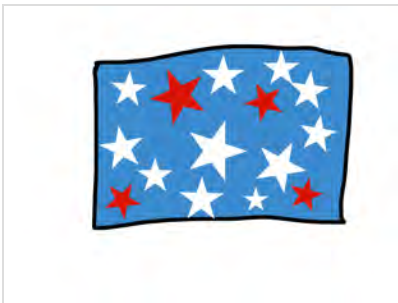
287

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois 2013 the school that i go to is Wilmette public school and i made this flag in IGS wich stands for global studies

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the four stars in the Chicago flag and the white stars represent the United States flag and the blue background represents peace and love love.



288

Relationship to Illinois

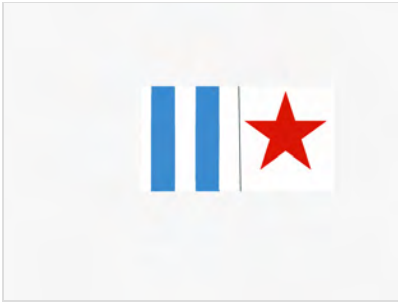
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Explain the meaning behind your flag

██████████



289



Relationship to Illinois

I have a relationship with Illinois because I live and go to school in Illinois. I was born in Chicago but I lived in Illinois for as long as I can remember.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is freedom, freeing the slaves, and the lake that surrounds Illinois.

290



Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The beauty of my flag is its design features and motifs are instantly recognizable. The blue wave on the left side mimics the western border of Illinois. The red star pays homage to Illinois' largest and most populous city. The waving grass references Illinois' natural landscape and our state nickname, "The Prairie State." And, the I (shaped like an i beam), while an obvious reference to our name, also gives a subtle nod to 2 of our largest industries - construction and manufacturing.

291



Relationship to Illinois

I am 72 years old and have lived in Illinois most of my life. I attended Northwestern University and I have worked in the Chicago area for the RTA, IDOT, United Airlines and Hyatt Hotels Group. I am passionate about Chicago and my wife and son and daughter in law are also passionate about Illinois history and Chicago architecture. My parents were refugees from Europe before World War II, and Chicago and Illinois is a place that they immigrated to and have made me proud of Chicago and Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is second version of submittal. The green field with the blue sky above is meant to represent Illinois being the prairie state. The blue stripe on the left is meant to represent the Mississippi River which forms the entire western border of the State. Finally, the Lincoln silhouette is meant to represent Illinois as the Land of Lincoln.

292



Relationship to Illinois

Lived in Central Illinois my entire life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Based off the Chicago flag but with a single star to represent Illinois, green and yellow color scheme represents our agriculture.

293



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 72 year old native of Chicago who has spent most of his life in Illinois. I went to Northwestern and I worked for RTA, IDOT, United Airlines and Hyatt Hotels, Corp. I am passionate about the history and architecture of Chicago and Illinois and so is my wife and my son and daughter in law. My parents were refugees from Nazi Europe and they instilled in me a great passion for Illinois and Chicago as a place where they could be free and prosper.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is third version of submittal. The green field with the blue sky above is meant to represent Illinois being the prairie state. The blue stripe on the left is meant to represent the Mississippi River which forms the entire western border of the State. Finally, the Lincoln silhouette is meant to represent Illinois as the Land of Lincoln.

294

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Urbana, Illinois before moving to the Downers Grove, Illinois area at 13 years old. My mother and father met while attending Eastern Illinois University. My father received his master's degree at Eastern Illinois University and my mother received her master's degree at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. I am a current student at the College of DuPage planning to transfer to the University of Illinois Chicago next fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design portrays many of the great things about Illinois. Throughout my research, columns became a prevalent theme that I felt represented the strength of this state and its citizens. Soldier Field, Memorial Stadium, and the Illinois State Capitol Building all share this column design. This flag design is also reminiscent of the vintage football jerseys worn by both the Fighting Illini and Chicago Bears. This would be a cool modern design that also acknowledged our states rich history.



295

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud Midwesterner and have lived in Ohio, Wisconsin, and Illinois. Illinois is my home now and she deserves a great flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose to integrate four elements from Illinois' unique state traditions. I included a star from the world famous Chicago flag along with a version of its sky-blue bar. The state bird of Illinois, a Northern Cardinal, is drawn here along with the yellow-gold of Illinois prairieland. Finally, this version includes our motto beneath each symbol.



296



Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud Midwesterner and have lived in Ohio, Wisconsin and Illinois. Illinois is my home now and she deserves a great flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose to integrate four elements from Illinois' history: a star from the Chicago flag & its sky-blue bar, the state bird of Illinois (a Northern Cardinal), and the yellow-gold of Illinois prairie land. This version omits the motto.

297



Relationship to Illinois

I've traveled to Illinois a couple times in my lifetime. And is very close to my home state, Minnesota. Have gone to Chicago for concerts and vacations.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Two Stars Represent Chicago and Springfield. The purple flower is the Blossom, the Illinois State Flower. And the un-rectangular shape of the flag is a very simplified Illinois turned sideways. And can also look like pizza, more specifically Chicago-styled pizza. The Red represents the Government, and the blue represents Justice.



298

Relationship to Illinois

Lived here my entire life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is self explanatory

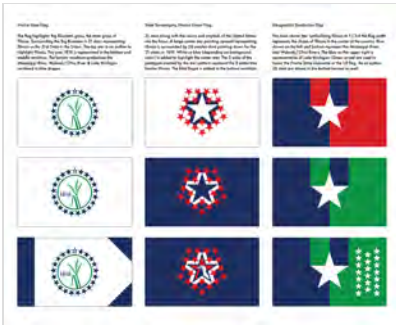
299

Relationship to Illinois

Hello! I have been an Illinois resident my whole life. I was born in 1990 in Park Ridge and grew up in Wheeling. I've lived in Chicago for the past 15 years. I also share a birthday with the state of Illinois (Dec. 3rd). I have loved flags as long as I can remember. My parents had a set of world encyclopedia's and I would obsess over flag designs. The idea of a flag I designed being etched in history is so exciting. I would be forever grateful for the opportunity. Thank you!Adam Foxman

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first flag honors the Prairie State nickname. Big Bluegrass, the state grass, is in the center of the flag. It is surrounded by 21 stars. My second is aimed at honoring State Sovereignty, Nation Union. With US colors I designed a pattern of stars highlighted with 1 star for Illinois. The pentagon pattern represents the 5 states Illinois border. My third design is focused on geography. Blue is used to show the rivers and lake. IL is symbolized by 1 star. More details in the pdf. Thank you!



300

Relationship to Illinois

I live here and will probably continue to live here, at least until the Most Serene Republic of Chicago secedes from the state and from the union, becoming a merchant republic in the mold of Venice or Genoa, ruling the Great Lakes with a grand armada of mercenaries and privateers.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It has the flag of the good part of the state on a field of green, which represents the rest of you.



301

Relationship to Illinois

I was raised in IL from the age of 3, worked in the city and suburbs for more than 30 years and was eventually forced to flee the state as it grew into an increasingly dystopian hellscape under the guidance of the corrupt democrat machine. Had I stayed, I would have been made a felon for my gun safe's contents, would have been forced to purchase and repurchase my God-given second amendment right, and the right to carry, and paid six times the property tax for the same value house I have now.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design has a classic style that speaks to the true essence of Illinois, not only for those unfortunate enough to be trapped there among an insane tax policy, repressive social engineering, ludicrously socialist public unions (especially teachers), overbearing nanny-statism, disenfranchisement of citizens in favor of illegal immigrants and general top-down micromanagement by people who couldn't manage a lemonade stand, let alone others' lives. I think the meaning is crystal clear.

302

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is the state I grew up in. I love Illinois because of the culture, the diversity, and the great food. Illinois will always be home to me and where I and my family will live the rest of our lives. Im currently a student at northern Illinois University in Dekalb IL. Moving to Dekalb has let me see some beautiful sights in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents some of the most iconic parts of Illinois. The background colors are red, white, and light/baby blue, The colors in the Chicago flag. Chicago is the first thing everyone thinks of when they hear Illinois, so I felt like those should be the main colors in the flag. Secondly, I added an eagle. the eagle is a staple of the original flag so I felt it should be on the new one as well. I also added wheat on the side of the eagle because wheat is all around Illinois.

303

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois almost my entire life, having been born and raised on the southwest side of Chicago (in the Scottsdale neighborhood), going to college at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and now living in the Clearing neighborhood of Chicago with my wife and child (still on the southwest side).



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag focuses on the land of Illinois itself. The blue semicircle and the wavy blue lines represent the waters of Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and the Ohio/Wabash Rivers, while the green field represents the verdant farmlands of the state. The distinctive red 6-pointed star and the central blue dome represent the great city of Chicago and the capital city of Springfield, respectively. In fact, if you rotate this flag 90 degrees clockwise, you will see it is a rough map of the state!

304

Relationship to Illinois

Born and still living there.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors: Same exact shades as the US flag, referencing Illinois as one of the "50 Stars" on the flag. 21 side star: Illinois is the 21st state. Size of columns: Inspired by French flag, Illinois was once part of New France.

305

Relationship to Illinois

Born and still living there.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors: Same exact shades as the US flag, referencing Illinois as one of the "50 Stars" on the flag. 21 side star: Illinois is the 21st state. Size of columns: Inspired by French flag, Illinois was once part of New France.

306



Relationship to Illinois

Born and still living there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors: Same exact shades as the US flag, referencing Illinois as one of the "50 Stars" on the flag. 21 side star: Illinois is the 21st state. Size of columns: Inspired by French flag, Illinois was once part of New France.

307



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A three tipped star for the three main areas of Chicago. A Grey shape to represent the shape of Illinois and grey for industrial cities like Chicago. A yellow strip for the crops. And a large green area for the Great Plains

308



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A three tipped star for the three main areas of Chicago. A Grey shape to represent the shape of Illinois and grey for industrial cities like Chicago. A yellow strip for the crops. And a large green area for the Great Plains

309



Relationship to Illinois

I am a current Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors represent the proud Chicago style hot dog. Beige for the bun and celery salt, carmine for the tomato and vienna beef, chartreuse for pickles and sport peppers, citrine for the mustard, white for the onions, and kelly green for the relish. The 21 black dots represent poppy seeds, as well as Illinois' inclusion as the 21st state. The citrine stripe of the mustard also represents corn and Malört.

310



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my entire life and have never had the urge to move out of state. I used to work for a boat touring company in Chicago called Shoreline, and tourists would always tell me how much they loved coming to Illinois because we have the friendliest people around and they always feel welcomed no matter where they're from. I think that's why I'm still here — the sense of community is strong no matter where you go in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White honors the original Illinois flag. Light blue is from the morning sky, and dark blue is inspired by the sunset and Illinois branding. The shield reflects the original design. The common blue violet, Illinois' state flower, is featured, with a star representing the 5 major regions: Chicago Area, Northwestern, North Central, Central, and Southern. The lines forming the Vs symbolize the 3 rivers surrounding Illinois.

311

Relationship to Illinois

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312

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2001 and have spent most of my life here. There is a lot about Illinois to be proud of and I am honored to be able to represent my pride for Illinois by designing a flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green background is in reference to our state nickname: The Prairie State. The two diagonal blue lines represent the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers which give Illinois its shape. The gold wheat stalk represents Illinois' booming agricultural industry. The wheat stalk has 18 kernels as a reference to the year Illinois was founded: 1818. Lastly, the flag has a 2:1 aspect ratio because Illinois was the 21st state to join the union.

313



Relationship to Illinois

My family immigrated here when I was 5 and my parents became citizens in 2019. I have lived here for a long time.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag shows the state animal, the white tailed deer. I also included the year Illinois was founded. I also chose blue and orange as the colors because it's something you see in Illinois organizations (IHSA , University of Illinois).

314



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2001 and have spent most of my life here. There is a lot about Illinois to be proud of and I am honored to be able to represent my pride for Illinois by designing a flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green background is in reference to our state nickname: The Prairie State. The two diagonal blue lines represent the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers which give Illinois its shape. The gold six pointed star represents six of the major tribes which formed the Illini confederation: The Kaskaskia, Cahokia, Peoria, Tamaroa, Moingwena, and Michigamea. The star is also an homage to the flag of Chicago. Lastly, the flag has a 2:1 aspect ratio because Illinois was the 21st state to join the union.

315

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2001 and have spent most of my life here. There is a lot about Illinois to be proud of and I am honored to be able to represent my pride for Illinois by designing a flag.



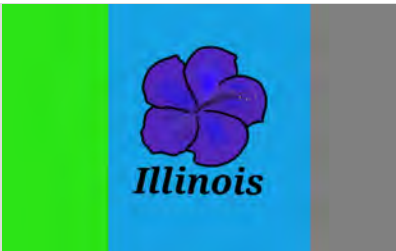
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green background is in reference to our state nickname: The Prairie State. The two diagonal blue lines represent the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers which give Illinois its shape. The violet six pointed star represents six of the major tribes which formed the Illini confederation and the violet color is in reference to our state flower: the violet. The star is also an homage to the flag of Chicago. Lastly, the flag has a 2:1 aspect ratio because Illinois was the 21st state to join the union.

316

Relationship to Illinois

I moved here around four years ago with my Mom and Dad. This is the state we want to stay in forever, me included. We live on a small farm, and my mom works as a nurse. I love this state. There is something about the people and the nature here that makes me feel like this is the place I want to stay in forever. I love the history of Illinois, and I enjoy reading about it.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The grey represents manufacturing, the green represents agriculture, and the blue represents the Chicago River. The flower in the center is a Common Blue Violet, the state flower.

317

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my entire life, with Southern Illinois as my home. I wish more people recognized the richness of this state beyond just Chicago. Maybe winning this contest will finally shift some attention to the beauty and spirit to the south.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design captures the essence of Illinois with bold simplicity. A majestic White Oak, the state tree, rises strong, its roots deeply intertwined with a Bald Eagle — symbolizing resilience and freedom. The 21 feathers on the eagle honors Illinois as the 21st state, connecting our proud heritage to a future rooted in strength and unity.



318

Relationship to Illinois

I'm not From Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Flag has to Starts and The Color of my Flag Design is Blue and Black



319

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the blue top represents the Mississippi River and how its the border of our state. the green on the bottom represents the farmland that is most of the state and represent the name "the prairie state" the triangle pattern represents east St Louis being one of the major areas people live. and the star is the one from the Chicago represents the most densely populated area in the state and the 3rd largest city in America and the home to many people from Illinois.



320

Relationship to Illinois



I live in Cook County Illinois, and have my entire life. I live in Wilmette with my family of six and three cats. We enjoy going to Lake Michigan and biking around our town. I love how friendly Illinois is and how many different places there are to go.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red Illinois shape shows the bravery and strength of the state. The blue stripe represents the water in Illinois such as Lake Michigan and all of the other rivers and water resources running through Illinois. The yellow illustrates corn and other fields of grown food, it also stands for sun and freedom. And finally the green displays the land and open space where you can be yourself, it also shows hope.

321

Relationship to Illinois



I'm not from Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Flag is Red and Black With a Black Star 🌟 in the Middle of my Flag Design

322

Relationship to Illinois



Born and raised, attended the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, and moved back to Chicago where I'll live for the rest of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is the most American of all American states--urban, suburban, rural, diverse--and so the bald eagle is prominently displayed. Its wings are also open wide, welcoming all to Illinois. It's holding a sprout of corn representing our agricultural strength. In the other talon, it's holding a shield with 13 stripes (representing the 13 colonies like our current flag) and 3 7 pointed stars. The 3 stars symbolize Northern, Central and Southern IL, and the 21 points representing 21st state.

323

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and continue living there. I have worked for many years, in the city of Chicago, and have always lived in DuPage County. Our roots are firmly planted in this state and it's a big part of who I am and who my family is.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

When flying horizontally, the blue on the left side of the flag represents the Mississippi River as our western border, and when hung vertically, at the top of the flag, represents Lake Michigan. The yellow represents farming and corn fields and the green represents our vast prairies. The single star represents Springfield in the middle and borrows from the same design of the Chicago flag as an homage to our largest city and commerce hub, all corners of our state represented as one union.



324

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] and I was born in Illinois in 2013. I have learned about Illinois in school. I know the history of Illinois. I have lived in IL for eleven years (since I was born here). I live in Wilmette IL. I love that the people in Illinois are so kind and that there is a lot of farmland here. I have traveled to most places in Illinois since my family goes on lots of road trips (mostly in Illinois).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my flag the dark blue sky portrays freedom because during the Civil War Illinois had lots of freedom. The water shows Lake Michigan and the wavy line is the Mississippi River on the border. The one star symbolizes that Illinois was the first star to end slavery. The red in the star shows the warmth that Illinois gave the people during the times of the Underground Railroad. I have practiced making flags in school. And I am familiar with the “Good Flag, Bad Flag” book.



325

Relationship to Illinois

I'm from Michigan so every now and then I go to Illinois (Chicago specifically) and I've driven through a few times.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars (and the big one in the middle) represent Illinois' entry as the 21st state admitted to the union. The white represents purity and unity. Blue represents justice, loyalty and Lake Michigan, which is partially in Illinois. Orange represents the industry and courage. The arrow design represents the forward moving minds of Illinois residents.



326

Relationship to Illinois

Non Illinois-Resident fighting uphill battleHave visited Illinois, Chicago is best city I've been to (Big Architecture Guy) + Loved Lake Michigan + Shawnee Nat'l Forrest is amazingFriends who live in Illinois (Chicago & Peoria) Feel it is similar to my home state (NY) Big City + Underrated Rest of StateIllinois deserves to have a flag which better represents its strong cultural identity & can be flown with pride by Illinoisans & will hopefully pave way for future state flag redesigns

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lincoln Silhouette for "Land of Lincoln"White Flag represents both the land of Illinois & reference to original flagBlue Bands represent the state's rivers (Vertical Mississippi, Wabash, Ohio/Horizontal Illinois, Chicago, Sangamon)Orange bands represent agricultural land & PumpkinsThe Bands converge indicating Illinois's role as a transportation hub for the USThe Smallest Orange band specifically is for Muddy Levee Road approaching Inspiration PointSix point Star for Lake Michigan



327

Relationship to Illinois

Hello my name is [REDACTED] and I have lived in Illinois for 9 years. I used to live in Connecticut, but due to personal reasons, I moved here when I was 3. I live in Wilmette and have lived there for the entire time I have lived in Illinois. I go to Highcrest Middle School, where I learned about the Illinois flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my Integrated Global Studies class, I learned about the principles of a good flag, and studied about different flags around the country. The 21 stars on my flag symbolizes how Illinois was the 21st state of America. I chose yellow stars because yellow represents freedom. Illinois was one of the first states to be slavery free, and helped the Underground Railroad. I chose the 5 pointed star because it portrays the state flower, violet. Lastly, the blue lines are to represent Lake Michigan.



328

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifetime resident of the State of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A gray line that meets in the middle with a green line (industry meeting agriculture). A field of blue representing wisdom, stability, and freedom. And one six-pointed red star, referencing the Chicago flag (Illinois' biggest city).



329

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a high school student who was born and raised in IL. I now currently lived in Northbrook, IL where I am involved in the community via the Park District. I'm also enrolled as student at Glenbrook North. One part of IL which fascinates me is Cahokia Mounds in Southern IL which is depicted in my flag. I visited Monk's Mound and can't wait for the visitor center to re-open.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Flag depicts Monk's Mound with the Sun rising over it. The Sun was seen as very important for the Mississippian peoples and their religions. The Sun appears to rise from the mound viewed from Woodhenge during Equinoxes and Solstices in real life as well. The flag also contains a red stripe and blue stripe with 10 stars each. If you count all the stars and the Sun you get 21 stars, symbolic of IL being the 21st state. The red, white and blue represent America as a whole.

330

Relationship to Illinois

I have pride in the flag we have today that carries significant history to it. Please stop spending tax payers money on this idea that will have more tax payer money spent on replacing public building flags and emblems with a new design that will not be tied to this states history, this will not make me feel pride, it will make me feel anger and reinforce how much I hate when the state wastes my very high tax contribution.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My proposal is to keep the same flag.

331

Relationship to Illinois

Life time citizen and resident. Indigenous descendant of those who would travel to Cahokia.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A Mississippian sun symbol represents Cahokia, with white representing the future progress of the state and green symbolizing the prairie and the historical struggles of all Illinoisans. The overall design reflects the significant Polish contributions to the state's history.



332

Relationship to Illinois

Lifetime citizen, resident, and Indigenous descendant of travelers to Cahokia.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Navy blue represents Illinois' past struggles, gradually transitioning into white to signify a brighter future (in line with Pan-Midwestern colors). At the center, a French-style shield depicts a sun rising over Lake Michigan, with green symbolizing the prairie.



333

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen, resident, and Indigenous descendant of those who visited Cahokia.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue is the rivers and lakes, the green is the forests and prairies. The white shield represents the preservation of the state's natural beauty with 20 stars (4 representing the different governing nations — UK, France, US, and Native peoples) of Illinois, with the 21st star being the Mississippian-style sun at the center. This symbolizes the rich, interconnected history of the state.



334

Relationship to Illinois

My child has had a vast interest in Illinois, and he recently saw this as a opportunity to show his creativity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three (3) stars on the left represent northern, central, and southern Illinois. The bird silhouette represents the northern cardinal, which is the state bird. For the colors, the white represents purity, showing that the three (3) regions help each other. The blue represents the state's important bodies of water (Mississippi and Illinois rivers, Lake Michigan, etc)(it's also on top because they're mostly in the north). And the red represents the state bird's color.



335

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois. I have seen the state go through hard times and a want a flag for Illinois to be proud of to look for a better future

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Eagle Represents the presidential eagle (in honor of Abe Lincoln) while paying homage to the original eagle on the Illinois flag. The two blue lines represent the Mississippi River and lake Michigan.



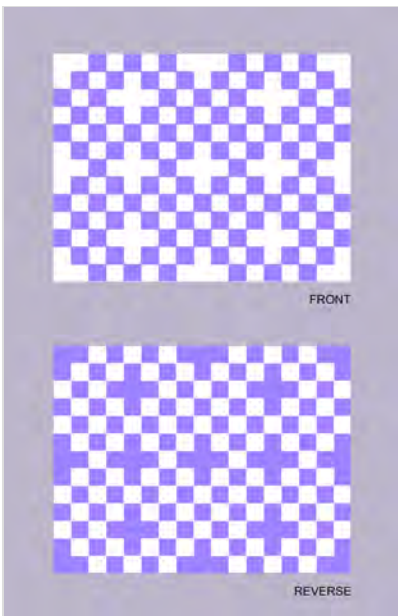
336

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since 2008 and have been coming to Illinois for Thanksgiving every year since 1985.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This starts with the same solid white background of our current flag — but that's where the similarities between the two end. Unlike the figurative, literal depiction of the Illinois State Seal, this abstracted pattern features 102 squares representing all 102 of our state's individual counties. Since our state does not have an official color, each square (inverted on the opposite side) matches the hue of our official state flower: the violet.



337



Relationship to Illinois

My child has had a vast interest in Illinois, and he saw this as a chance to show his creativity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stars represent Illinois being the 21st state. The eagle represents the seal. For the colors, the white represents purity, the green represents Illinois's nickname, the prairie state, and the brown represents peace at difficult times. The eagle is colored brown to show that it is the force that unites us via peace.

338



Relationship to Illinois

Former Resident for ~18 years, visit often.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White tailed deer, state animal. Buck in defiant stance, showing strong Illinoisans. White for the simplicity of a midwestern people and snow. 21 point star, 21st state. Star shadow honoring history of Illinois. Shadow is blue for rivers of the state. Orange - great Chicago fire, showcasing the tenacity of Illinoisans. Blue background for Lake Michigan. Springfield & Chicago stars in their true red colors. Corn/soybean kernels pattern forming columns – lucrative rural crops industry in Illinois.

339



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since 2008 and have been coming to Illinois for Thanksgiving every year since 1985.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This proposal drastically simplifies the imagery and colors of the current Illinois state flag. The rising sun in our state seal is represented by a yellow circle at the center of three equal-sized stripes of green for our land, blue for our water, and white in homage of our original flag.

340



Relationship to Illinois

Life long resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Flag contains 3 vertical stripes representing from left to right the Mississippi River, the Illinois River, and Lake Michigan with the 21 stars representing the Illinois being the 21st state.

341



Relationship to Illinois

Former Resident for ~18 years, visit often.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White tailed deer, state animal. The buck is in a defiant stance, representing strong Illinoisans. The deer is white for the simplicity of a midwestern people and snow that Illinois is commonly known for. 21 point star, 21st state. Orange for the great Chicago fire, showcasing the tenacity of Illinoisans. Blue background for Lake Michigan and rivers of the state.

342



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a resident of Illinois for 31+ years. This is a waste of time, money, and effort by the State. Spend your time and money on worthwhile projects for the State that benefit all residents.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

We DO NOT need a new flag. It's a waste of time. The current one is fine.

343

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident all my life, and am proud to live in this state where Abraham Lincoln practiced law and became one of the greatest Presidents this country ever had.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have been proud to fly the current State of Illinois flag for decades. I am submitting exactly the same design of the current flag as a protest to any redesign of it, There is absolutely nothing about this flag that is anti-diverse or anti-inclusive about it. The symbolism is beautiful and meaningful. The flag should represent the foundation of our state, not some fleeting glimpse of the current day that ignores history.



344

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345



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the great state of Illinois. I also received both of my degrees from Illinois State University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag depicts the sun rising over a field. This represents Illinois' long history of agriculture, as well as its bright future. 21 rays emanate from the sun, Representing Illinois' place as the 21st state to join the union.

346



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue field in the upper left represents Illinois' waterways including Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The yellow field in the bottom right represents Illinois' strengths in agriculture. The green stripe and circle represent Illinois' state park system. The 8-pointed star represents Illinois' statehood in the year 1818.

347



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston, grew up in Chicago and Skokie, went to college at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, went to law school in Chicago at Northwestern and now work in Chicago as a lawyer. Would call myself a proud Illinois lifer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue triangle on the left side of the flag symbolizes one of Illinois' key waterways, the Mississippi River. The blue triangle on the right side of the flag symbolizes Lake Michigan. The six pointed star in that triangle is for Chicago, Illinois' queen city which sits on the lake. The yellow and green triangles in the middle of the flag symbolize the prairie which Illinois is known for - green for the spring and yellow for the fall. Together they look like abstract farm fields.

348

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349

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston, raised in Chicago and Skokie, went to undergrad at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, went to law school in Chicago at Northwestern and now live and work in Chicago as a lawyer.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two colors, orange and blue are unique to the state of Illinois - they are the colors of UIUC and the colors of our NFL team, the Bears. The line separating the two colors is the Mississippi River, the state's western border (please note that the intent is for the blue field and the orange field to meet along the Mississippi River line with no black line or white in the middle). On the right half of the flag is an image of Abraham Lincoln, arguably our most notable resident.

350

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Southern Illinois, around the Metro East area. I have grown to love this state and all of its natural beauty, and I wish to create a symbol that all in Illinois can unite behind.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four colors are: orange symbolizing optimism for the future, Blue symbolizing the importance of our states waterways (Illinois, Mississippi, and Kaskaskia rivers and Lake Michigan), white symbolizing the present, and black symbolizing the past. The black shape is based on the step like nature of the largest mound at Cahokia, Monks Mound. It can be interpreted as steps towards the future of our state (from white/past, through blue, to orange/future). Inside a circle lies our original flag.

351

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of this once great state of Illinois. Three generations of my family have lived here and I have watched it deteriorate into anarchy, chaos, high taxes and over regulation to the point that it is almost uninhabitable. The best thing that can happen is to redesign the flag!! Yes, I'm sure that will solve everything because that flag does not represent what we have become.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design represents the current culture in Illinois and represents all the diverse people of Illinois. And it includes a universally well known symbol of equity because that's something this state is trying to achieve for all its citizens no matter how much wealth needs to be redistributed to people that didn't earn it and will never be productive citizens.

352



Relationship to Illinois

Resident of 64 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Do not change the flag it is beautiful and no need to waste all this money more in such a deficit

353



Relationship to Illinois

You don't know the glory until you're gone. Being born and raised here, Illinois was all that I ever knew, and it was all that I ever wanted. However, I am currently residing out-of-state for college, but when I heard that we are redesigning our flag I was inspired to encapsulate all of my memories of this wonderful place into one single banner. Being away, I can't stop but to think of the splendor of Illinois all of the time. I can't wait to come home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents our substantial relationship with water (the Mississippi, Lake Michigan, and more). The yellow symbolizes corn and therefore our mighty farmers and agricultural sector. The white represents our history as it was the predominant color of the Columbian Exposition of 1893. The white is also a nod to our current flag. The arrow represents Illinois leading us to a bright future. The 'Y' shape after is a nod to Chicago's famous river geography. Our iconic border is also on display.

354



Relationship to Illinois

Life long residence.

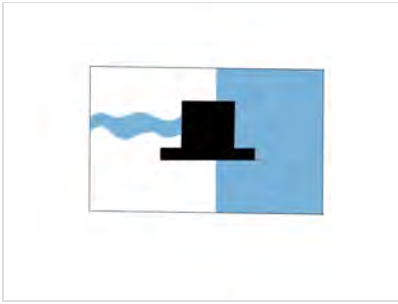
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The golden color is for the golden fields. The burst symbolizes your wallet exploding from Illinois Taxes. The cone represents the infinite potholes and never ending road repairs. The Diagonal lines symbolizes all roads leading to the center red star of Chicago. The red star is also a gunshot. You'll naturally find no mention of Springfield whatsoever. The two blue lines are representing the two Blues Brothers. The new motto: " We're on a mission from God". I can keep going... .

355

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, Illinois. I have lived here for my entire life. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I have learned a lot about flag design, and Illinois in 6th grade integrated global studies.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

On the right side of my flag it shows the blue which represents Lake Michigan. On the left side of my flag the blue represents the Mississippi River. The 4 wiggly lines on the right represent the 4 presidents that call Illinois there home. And in the middle there is Abraham Lincoln's hat. That is there because people call Illinois the land of Lincoln. And because Illinois was the first state to sign the no slavery amendment to the constitution because of Lincoln.

356

Relationship to Illinois

i was born in chicago, illinois on february 3rd 2013. I live and go to school in Wilmette, illinois. I am very proud to live in illinois. I love all the major cities in illinois. I moved to Wilmette on August 4th 2020. I love the Chicago flag which is why I made part of it part of my Illinois flag submission. I took inspiration for my flag from the Springfield flag. I think it goes well because Springfield is the capital of illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I watched the TED talk on what a good flag should look like. I saw all the rules. The beige side represents the many prairies in illinois. The green side illustrates the habitat of the state animal, the white tailed deer, which are forests or fields. The light blue stripe exhibits how Illinois has a bunch of water. The star represents the star on the Springfield flag, the capital of illinois.

357

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in IL for 25 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is the public domain, 1917 Illinois Centennial Flag by Wallace Rice, and already approved for use by the Illinois State Legislature. This was a great flag designed 100+ years ago and is still a great flag today."The Illinois legislature passed an act, approved June 25, 1917, authorizing the state centennial commission to use a state banner or flag commemorating the centennial anniversary of the admission of the state of Illinois into the federal union."



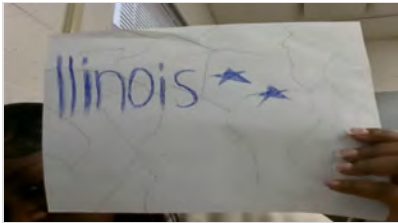
358

Relationship to Illinois

my relationship to Illinois is good I've lived here for a long time its nice and quiet.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of my flag is the world map i thought it was different I haven't seen a flag with a map on it. The meaning behind the stars on the flag its about the Chicago fire.



359

Relationship to Illinois

Raised in Elmhurst, IL. My parents were also raised in Elmhurst. I now live in Chicago, attended Columbia College Chicago, and work at Loyola University Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

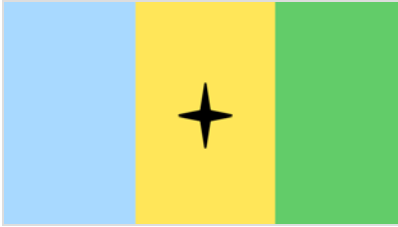
My flag is divided into three sections to represent the three divisions of Illinois. Steel blue represents northern Illinois, the urban vibe of Chicago, industry, and Lake Michigan. White represents mid-Illinois, the prairie, open air, and agriculture. Brick red represents southern Illinois' rugged landscape and rich history. The star represents the sun and overlaps all three bands as a symbol of state unity. The star's 21 points represents Illinois as the 21 state.



360

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2012. I have lived here in this great state my whole life. I have been learning in depth about Illinois since third grade and I am fascinated everytime I learn a new piece of the rich history of this wonderful state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have practiced designing flags in school, and I am familiar with the five basic flag design principles. To start, the light blue in my flag represents the bodies of freshwater that are in and around our beautiful state. The yellow in my flag portrays the chronic show of freedom and the encouragement of freedom in our history. The green depicts the deep agricultural roots and the fertile prairie grounds of Illinois. Lastly, the black star symbolizes the people of Illinois.

361

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois since 2011 and I currently reside in Bridgeport. My father was born in Chicago and grew up in Deerfield. I attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, as did my grandfather. I'm inspired by the multitudes that Illinois contains, from the extremes of rural small-town communities to the heights of bustling urban areas. I'm also inspired by both the historic and modern spatial elements of IL history from the Cahokia mounds to modern American architecture and beyond.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design features symbols that evoke the horizontal, rural prairie of Illinois as well as it's bustling urban space that is Chicago. The three diamond shapes in the center are a reference to stalks of wheat, representing Illinois' history as a 'bread basket' for our entire country. Those central shapes are also a reference to the 1933 World's Fair and Chicago's soaring skyscrapers - one of the many contributions we've made to the world. The sunburst stands for opportunity and equality.

362

Relationship to Illinois

The designer is a senior at Oak Park-River Forest High School. They have lived in Illinois since 2017. They say Illinois is the state they grew up in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Progress" is a 3:5 ratio flag. There is a triangle on the left side with the point facing right. This is to signify progress that Illinois makes. The triangle is red representing a cardinal, the state bird. There are 3 stars in the triangle. They represent, from top to bottom, the state slogan, state motto and state nickname. In the center of the flag there is a blue stripe with a red border. This stripe represents the Illinois river and the flow of progress. The white represents commerce.



363

Relationship to Illinois

The designer is a senior at Oak Park-River Forest High School. They have lived in Illinois since 2017. They say Illinois is the state they grew up in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

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364

Relationship to Illinois

The designer is a senior at Oak Park-River Forest High School. They have lived in Illinois since 2017. They consider that they have grown up in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Standing Cardinal" is a 3:5 ratio flag. It is a tri-band with a yellow stripe on the left-hand side. The yellow stripe represents the agriculture of our state. There is a red cardinal standing looking forward to the future of our state. Surrounding the bird there are 3 stars representing freedom, equality, and unity. The green represents the fertile land, white represents industry and commerce, and the blue represents the great waterways of our state.



365

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Elmhurst, Illinois in DuPage County and lived in Lombard until I was 5. I have always been in love with the distinct greenery of Illinois, as well as the rolling hills, meadows, prairies, swamps, and wetlands that cover the state. Everything was so green and full of life (6-7 months out of the year), which was in stark contrast to the dry, hot, unforgiving deserts of AZ where I had grown up. I returned to this wonderful state in 2022, settling in Chicago near lovely Lake Michigan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue silhouette and star of IL has a double meaning, both literally acknowledging the whole state while representing the beautiful Great Lake that defines much of the northern most populated part of our wonderful state. The green in the flag represents our beautiful rolling meadows, grasslands, wetlands, flower fields and prairies that exist thanks to Illinois having some of the most fertile soil in the world. I did not want to reduce IL to only corn, soybeans, or pumpkins.



366

Relationship to Illinois

While I am not a resident of Illinois myself, my family has strong familial connections to Illinois, and especially the Peoria area, where my maternal uncle and his branch of the family still lives.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag takes partial inspiration from the 1918 centennial flag, but with the band changed to purple as a reference to violets, the state flower. The shield in the middle is meant to evoke the state's name being derived from the Illini word for "warrior".

The stars on the shield's blue field represent the peoples who have governed over Illinois territory throughout history, with the large middle star representing the United States today.

367

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, grew up in Charleston, attended Eastern Illinois University; lived in Chicago suburb Oak Lawn for a spell; and have lived in Champaign for the last 13-odd years, most recently working for the University of Illinois-Champaign. I'm proud to reside in the state and want to give something back to the land that I call home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue on sides: Mississippi River & Lake Michigan
Orange: Sunsets over plains
Light blue: Chicago flag nod
Lincoln/1818/state slogan is prominent & represents best ideals/spirit of Illinois
Wheat sprig represents state agriculture
"Science flower" represents state's innovations in science/academia

368

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here virtually my entire life. I currently live in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue fields are the Mississippi River at left, and Lake Michigan, Ohio & Wabash Rivers at right. Ear of corn represents agriculture & Native Americans, the first Illinoisans, with its overall form recalling Fleur-de-Lis of French explorers. The red circle represents the original Chicago Ferris Wheel, recognized and imitated worldwide, and by extension Illinois engineering advances like steel skyscrapers. Also, a hub of transportation & commerce. Background light green of prairies & woods.



369

Relationship to Illinois

I was raised in Chicago and have been here for over 30 years with a brief period where i moved away from the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue stripes represent the water features on the eastern and western bounds of the state. The star represents the state itself as it is represented on the flag of the nation. In its vertical orientation, the white stripes look sorta like the stovepipe hat we associate with Abraham Lincoln.



370

Relationship to Illinois

m

Explain the meaning behind your flag

m



371

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 10 years and I love illinois! I live and go to school in Wilmette, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On my flag the two strips on the ends represent the corn fields in Illinois. Also the blue background of the flag portrays freedom and how we were the first state to sign to have no slavery. And inside the picture of the state the two red lines symbolizes how our state bird is a red cardinal. And the blue star means water. Each point of the star depicts a big body of water in Illinois such as the Mississippi river, lake Michigan, the chicago river, Des Plaines River and the Illinois river.



372

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in the year 2013. I have lived my whole life in Wilmette IL I know the history of IL I have learned a lot about Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Explain the meaning behind your flag: In my I.G.S class at Highcrest Middle School, We watched the TED talk about good flags and bad flags. I am very familiar with the five flag design principles. The blue background portrays freedom. That's because Illinois was the first state to sign The 13th Amendment which freed slaves. The yellow line displays the corn fields and bright people! The purple stripe shows the state flower violet. The red star indicates revolution and the state bird (cardinal)!



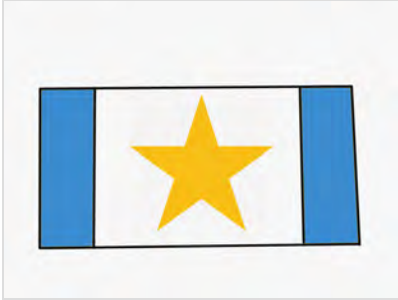
373

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, and I've lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I'm very familiar with making simple and good flags, because of my IGS class in 6th grade. I have watched videos and read lots of stories about how to make good flags. The meaning behind the yellow in my flag represents the corn and crops in Illinois. The blue stripes show the Chicago River and Lake Michigan because of the blue water. Stars represent guidance, enlightenment, and spirituality, which are some traits of people who live in Illinois. That's why I chose my symbols.



374

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for each of my 26 years. I've grown up in the suburbs, lived in Bridgeport & Hyde Park, I've lived downstate in Champaign, and now today my job brings me to every corner of this state, daily. I have seen as much as one can in 26 years that Illinois has to offer, from its people to its places. This state is much, much more than just a home for me, and it would be the honor of a lifetime to represent Illinois in this way.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A simplified version of my previous designs, this flag is divided into three horizontal sections for Northern, Central, & Southern IL, in white. The green that separates them is May Green from the current flag, representative of our vast prairies. The blue represents Lake Michigan, and the Mississippi, Ohio & Wabash Rivers, as well as the Illinois Waterway. The red symbols are for Chicago & St. Louis, as well as our French explorative history. The Green star represents the suburban counties.



375

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home. I am a lifelong resident of the Springfield area, and I am proud of the history and culture of the 21st state. I believe Illinois has so much to offer, and I believe Illinois is an amazing place to be. I believe our state deserves a flag we can be proud of. A flag that is immediately recognizable, and a flag that in its simplicity represents everything Illinois Stands for.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stripe on the left represents the Mississippi River. The white tail deer in the middle of the flag is an iconic state symbol representing rural Illinois' health and prosperity. In the upper left corner is a single six pointed star representing the founding of the state and the City of Chicago, Illinois' largest economic and cultural center. The two colors of the flag are the White banner of the current flag, and the three elements in the same blue as the flag of Springfield, the Capitol.

376

Relationship to Illinois

I don't live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Flag has a Blue Star in the Middle of the Flag



377

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2013 . My brother and I were the first people in my family to be born in the USA. My family has lived in Illinois for 15 years.and i have lived here for 11. My family is planning on never moving away because Illinois is just perfect.

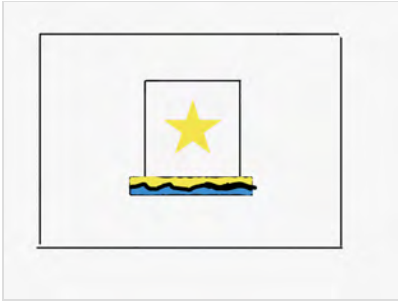
Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is dark blue with a 21 pointed star that in the middle of that there is a purple violet.I used dark blue to represent Lake Michigan and I also used it because it is really beautiful and subtle. I drew a 21 pointed star that symbolizes that Illinois was the 21 state to enter The union i drew a violet because it is the state flower.



378

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Illinois in 2013. I've lived in Illinois for 11 years. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I love everything about Illinois. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I was born in Illinois in 2013. I've lived in Illinois for 11 years. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I love everything about Illinois. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The hat on my flag represents aberham Lincoln. And how he lived in Illinois. The yellow star represents freedom. The blue squiggly line represents Lake Michigan, the Chicago river, and the Mississippi River. The yellow squiggly line over it represents the prairies. The white background represents religions.

379

Relationship to Illinois



I teach art at Woodland Middle School. My ancestor Jean Francois Bequette (French Marine) was stationed at Fort des Chartres in So. IL in 1719. He married a Native American from Cahokia. Jean died at 32 and is buried near the Fort. I serve in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (23 years), which was created by Congress to look after the graves of Union Civil War Veterans. Each year in April I and other members of the SUVCW make a pilgrimage to Spfld to honor Lincoln at his tomb.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

-Flag shape = golden ratio rectangle. Colors = Orange/Blue and Red/Green (complimentary colors). Light blue = lakes/waterways of IL. Green = agriculture. The orange "I" = to U of I, and our state values education. The diamond = the old logo of the IL Central Railroad. The heart = the Midwest "heartland." The color red = hardiness, valor, bravery and sacrifice. Dark blue "V" = Union Victory and Veterans. Each side of the "I" are two large arrowheads, which = the first nations of IL.

380



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Wilmette for 9 years and go to school here. I have learned about the history of Illinois from integrated global studies class and designed a flag. I am very proud to live in Illinois and design a flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

on the flag I put a northern cardinal because it's the bird that represents Illinois. I chose red for the cardinal to show Illinois bravery. I also added an orange circle around the bird to show all the joy that the people of Illinois have.

381



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, growing up in Rock Island. I am currently a student at Bradley University in Peoria, also Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Although three colors is typically best, I felt that four wasn't too fair of a stretch. Blue for the Mississippi and Lake Michigan. The top right corner is relative to the lake's position to the state, and the river is represented by the bottom left corner for rotational symmetry. Yellow for corn, our state vegetable and iconic produce, showcasing our agriculture. Green for the prairie, for which our state's title of "the Prairie State" originates. The red bird is a cardinal, our state bird.

382



Relationship to Illinois

I live in the great state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents the great turtles of our state. Illinois is home to seventeen different turtle species! This flag shows what Illinois is all about.

383

Relationship to Illinois

I was born near Illinois and have had a connection with it through the years. Either with loved ones and friends or vacationing with family. One of my favorite memories was taking Amtrak through the state with my wife to see the different parts of the state and admire the genuine Americana of the all parts of our country. We ended our journey in Chicago and went to as many landmarks, eateries, and museums. Though I am not an Illinoisan, I am very happy to share this United States with them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Three 7 point stars to show the three main parts of the state as well as represent the 21st state. Field of blue for water and industry. River element for transit and the importance of the river to the states history as well as today. 16 point compass made of feathers to show the navigation and travel to, from, and through the state, as well as a nod to the 16th president, Lincoln. Feathers for native Illiniwek. Orange and white field for agriculture and unity. 5 bars for 5 main Illini Tribes.



384

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385

Relationship to Illinois

Lived in Illinois nearly all my life. Grew up in Southern Illinois (Nashville). Lived in Chicago and the surrounding area for 4 years after college at Valpo. Lived in Springfield for a year while I worked with the railroad. Now I'm back in Nashville raising my kids.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I like a state flag where anyone can identify the state immediately and acts like a logo. I've admired the Chicago flag and St. Louis flag for that. So my flag is very simple. The left blue area mimics the Mississippi River curvature along the west border. The upper right represents Lake Michigan. The bottom right represents the Ohio River and provides that curvature and pleasing mirror. Use Chicago's stars along "Lake Michigan". This Microsoft Paint job is rough and needs professional revision.

386

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387

Relationship to Illinois

The designer is a senior at Oak Park-River Forest High School. They have lived in Illinois since 2017. They consider themselves as someone who has grown up in Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has 5 stripes, two orange, two thin ones navy, and one white. On the right-center side, there is an image of the Garden of the Gods in Shawnee National Forest. The right outline of this image is the Mississippi River as it borders Illinois. There is a semi-circle of 15 stars to the left representing unity. There are 6 stars on the left-center part of the flag, making 21 stars in total as we are the 21st state. 4 stars are larger than others representing 4 US presidents from Illinois.

388

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life and I am very proud to live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue stripes on the side of my flag depicts the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The yellow box in the middle portrays the huge amount of farmland in Illinois. Finally the handcuffs breaking represents Illinois being the first state to abolish slavery.



389

Relationship to Illinois



My great grandfather, great grandmother, and her sister were brought to Chicago from Germany as children in 1910. His name was Harry K. Bieg, and he became a great architect, winning many prizes. I knew him well. I got to visit him often for holidays, and every time I come to Chicago I am amazed how much I recall what he taught me about the city. He loved the museums, the architecture, and the Berghoff, (which I still love.) Chicago still seems imbued with deep meaning every time I visit.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The center star and rays are meant to symbolize the sun's rays when they shine between the city buildings at sunset. The experience of seeing that is unforgettable. It is on the background of farmland under a clear blue sky.

390

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Paducah, KY, though I have lived in Illinois for my whole life. I grew up in Metropolis, Massac County, a tiny settlement admittedly plagued by a lot of issues. About 2 years ago I moved to Carbondale for a better education, but I found myself missing Massac, while still loving Carbondale. I realized that I just love my state from top to bottom. Rich, poor, urban, rural, liberal, conservative. I love Illinois because it is itself, no matter where I am.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is a simple tricolor of white, blue, and yellow representing the sky, clouds, and a corn field. The state animal white-tail deer sits in the center, poking its head out of the corn. These represent Illinois's heritage

391

Relationship to Illinois

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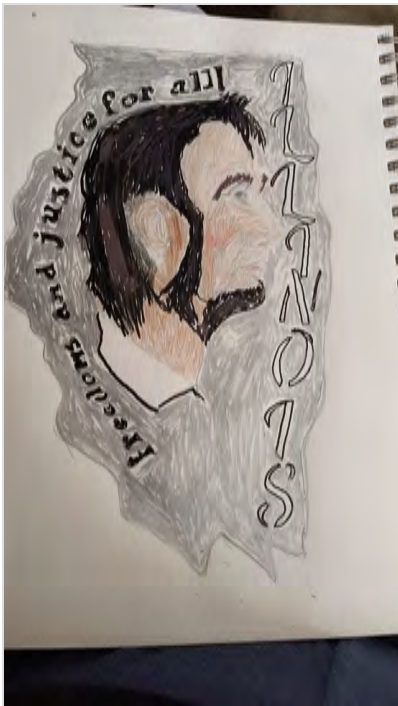
392

Relationship to Illinois

I've been a resident for over 60 years and have admired Abe Lincoln and what he stood for.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

As Abe Lincoln stood up for freedoms for everyone I believe he should be on the flag of our state. Illinois has been ongoing in the effort to keep our democracy and personal freedoms safe. We need to be proud and fight for our rights. Since Illinois is known as the land of Lincoln it is only right he should be depicted.



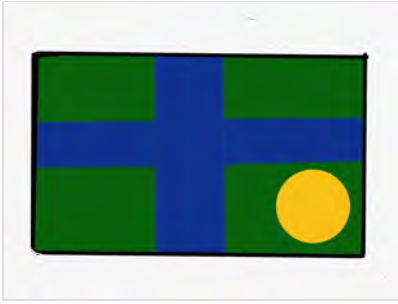
393

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived my entire eleven years in Illinois. I go to school in Wilmette Illinois, where I learned about flags in my integrated global studies class. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I was born in Illinois in 2013.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my integrated global studies class at highcrest middle school, we watched the TED talk about good flag design. I am familiar with the five flag design principles. The blue cross represents the four main rivers in Illinois, the yellow circle represents the sun, and the green rectangles represent the large amount of Illinois that is prairie or forest.



394

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years. I go to middle school in Illinois and I love the city and the sports that Illinois has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red star symbolizes the Chicago flag and the Chicago fire, the blue star represents the rivers in Illinois and the blue background is Lake Michigan. Also the green flag is for agriculture also the white part illustrates the cold winters that Illinois has yearly.



395

Relationship to Illinois

I've visited the state several times.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is very loosely based on Illinois Centennial flag, however instead of 20 stars representing slave states & free states there are 5 stars which represent the Illinois Confederation, France, Spain, Great Britain & the United States. The flag also uses the iconic 6-pointed stars on the flag of Chicago.



396



Relationship to Illinois

I've visited the state, and have friends who live there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is very loosely based on Illinois Centennial flag with the white & blue stripes reversed., however instead of 20 stars representing slave states & free states there are 3 stars which represent the major divisions of Illinois. The flag also uses the iconic 6-pointed stars on the flag of Chicago.

397



Relationship to Illinois

I've visited the state and have friends who live there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is based on the French flag to represent the first European settlement by the French in the Grand Village of the Illinois. The white stripe uses a stylized "I" like that in the Illinois Sesquicentennial flag. The three stars represent the 3 major divisions in the state.

398



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 10 years and I love Illinois! I live and go to school in Wilmette, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On my flag the two strips on the ends represent the corn fields in Illinois. Also the blue background of the flag portrays freedom and how we were the first state to sign to have no slavery. And inside the picture of the state the two red lines symbolizes how our state bird is a red cardinal. And the blue star means water. Each point of the star depicts a big body of water in Illinois such as the Mississippi river, lake Michigan, the Chicago river, Des Plaines River and the Illinois river.

399

Relationship to Illinois

I recently started my drawing/painting journey this summer. I am a full-time middle school Reading teacher and I was looking for a new hobby while off during the summer. I have lived in Illinois on and off for 30 years. My husband and I met in Darien, Illinois and he was active duty Coast Guard, so we transferred until his retirement two years ago when we moved back.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I took the outline of our state and added all of the major highways/toll roads. I added the star for the capital. Then, I added around the state line our state symbols. I tried to use red, green, and black to minimize the colors and look too busy. I added our flower, tree, bird, etc.



400

Relationship to Illinois

I'm an Illinois native and current resident, as well as a massive fan of Abraham Lincoln.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Orange and blue are the colors of our flagship university. "Illinois" at the bottom is an element from our current flag, and the prairie grass on either side symbolizes our state nickname. The 21-star oval represents Illinois as the 21st state to join the union. Lincoln is at the center because we are the Land of Lincoln, and the phrase around the oval comes from his 2nd Inaugural Address. The rural scene represents rural downstate and the Chicago skyline represents the urban upstate region.



401

Relationship to Illinois

I have been living in Illinois since 2019. I moved here for graduate school, and have called it home since. My fiance grew up in Illinois, and we've been living together in Illinois since 2021.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue top (same shade of blue as the Chicago flag), and represents the waters of Lake Michigan and the Illinois & Mississippi Rivers. The yellow middle represents our agricultural industry as well as our native prairie grass, as we are the Prairie State.

The three white Chicago-style stars represent the three regions of our state:

Northern, Central, and Southern. The green bottom represents our state forests and parks, as well as Shawnee National Forest.



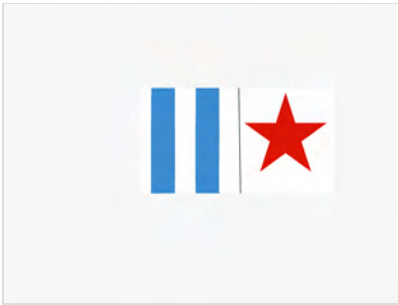
402

Relationship to Illinois

I have a relationship with Illinois because I live and go to school in Illinois. I was born in Chicago but I lived in Illinois for as long as I can remember.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is freedom, freeing the slaves, and the lake that surrounds Illinois.



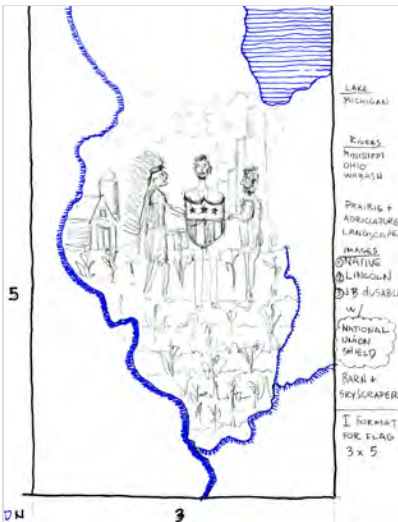
403

Relationship to Illinois

My great grandfather Christian Nurnberger came to Illinois in 1860 to play clarinet in the band for Lincoln's Inaugural.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is proportioned 3 x 5 in the vertical manner to symbolize the letter I. Water represents the natural boundaries of the state. The Mississippi, Ohio and Wabash Rivers represent life blood of agriculture, transportation and commerce. Lake Michigan's water supply is a source of abundance on a global scale. Center field has Native American with traditional Illini dress, Abe Lincoln and Jean Baptiste Point du Sable all join in lifting the National Union Shield represents E Pluribus Unum.



404

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, coming from Rock Island. I am currently a student in Illinois at Bradley University. I plan on staying within the state in my professional life to come.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a version of my previous submission (381), with an adjustment to the colors to make for a more appealing contrast. The colors are, as follows, Blue for the Mississippi and Lake Michigan. Yellow for our state vegetable, corn, to showcase our agriculture Green for the prairies from which we get the title of "the prairie state" And red for our state bird, the cardinal.



405

Relationship to Illinois

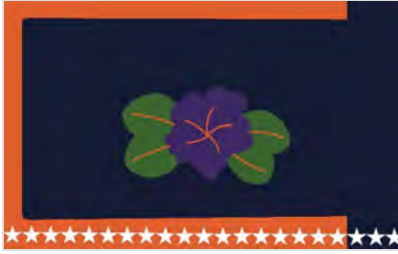
Since my birth in 2006, I have called Illinois home and explored its many wonders. From the verdant forests of southern Illinois to the stunning architecture of Wilmette, my travels have deepened my love for this state. I am inspired to design a flag that embodies this pride and unites every Illinoisian in their appreciation of our great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I will begin by explaining the meaning behind my flag's colors. Black: the color associated most with Abraham Lincoln, blue: representative of Illinois's many rivers and Lake Michigan, green: for Illinois's rich agriculture and forests, red: the blood of Illinois's industrial workers, white: unity. Now for the symbols, I chose a green trapezoid because it reminded me of Great Cahokia. A star with as many points as there were Native Americans tribes in Ill. and a gear for Illinois's industries.



406



Relationship to Illinois

I've grown up in Illinois and I know the flag needs an update. Illinois is a safe and great town to me and I believe it deserves a good flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is orange and navy blue. The navy blue part represents Abraham Lincoln's hat, in the middle of the flag is the state flower a Violet. And along the bottom of the flag are 21 white stars representing how Illinois is the 21st state of America.

407



Relationship to Illinois

live here in geneva

Explain the meaning behind your flag

we are the number one seller of pumpkins so i did a play on that!

408



Relationship to Illinois

Northwestern is in my top 5 favorite B10 college teams, and U of Illinois is probably in my top 6. The Chicago School of Economics is also my second favorite economic theory.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is known as the center of Americas's rail network, thus the rail in the center.surrounding the rail is 21 stars, signifying Illinois as the 21st state.on both sides 2 are white-red-white stripes, representing how, in Illinois, the east meets west, both in water--the Mississippi river and the Great Lakes, and in rail.

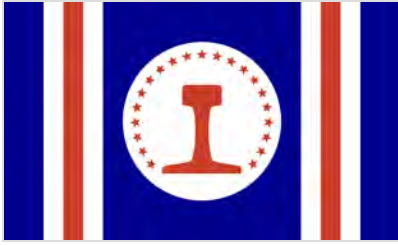
409

Relationship to Illinois

Northwestern is in my top 5 favorite B10 college teams, and U of Illinois is probably in my top 6. The Chicago School of Economics is also my second favorite economic theory.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is known as the center of Americas's rail network, thus the rail in the center.surrounding the rail is 21 stars, signifying Illinois as the 21st state.on both sides 2 are white-red-white stripes, representing how, in Illinois, the east meets west, both in water-- the Mississippi river and the Great Lakes, and in rail.



410

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life and plan to stay here after high school, possibly even going into a state school like UIUC.I have always enjoyed researching Illinois and its history. I consider Illinois to be a large part of my identity and a great influence on my interest in academics I have also always been interested in flags, only getting into vexillology recently. I have always thought that the old flag could be better. I'm honored to have the chance to do that for my beloved state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue - The blue waves represent the Mississippi RiverGreen - The green represents our status as "The Prairie State" showing a grassy landscapeStar - The star and its points represent Illinois' 9 largest cities by landmass and population, all of which (at least according to my consulted sources) have a population of over 100,000. These cities are Chicago, Joliet, Rockford, Springfield, Peoria, Aurora, Decatur, Naperville, and ElginIt's also a nod to my home's congressional district, District 9.



411



Relationship to Illinois

My friend lives in Illinois and my Mom used to live in Illinois. I know a lot about the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The deer is the state animal. The orange is meant to represent the college Illinois University as well as the blue.

412



Relationship to Illinois

My friend lives in Illinois and my Mom used to live in Illinois. I know a lot about the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The deer is the state animal. The orange is meant to represent the college Illinois University as well as the blue.

413



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Beardstown in 1970. Have lived there almost my entire life. Heard about the flag redesign contest and thought I would try to send a few. Here is one. Seeing as how I am not overly far from Springfield I almost wanted to put a hamburger horseshoe on the design lol.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors represent Illinois. The light blue stripe represents our rivers and lakes that make us one of the top hunting and fishing states in the country. The dark blue blocks I like in each corner. One in the upper corner could be the block I like the U of I or a different capitalized I. The blue block in the bottom could have a redesigned state seal or something symbolic of our state picked by the committee.

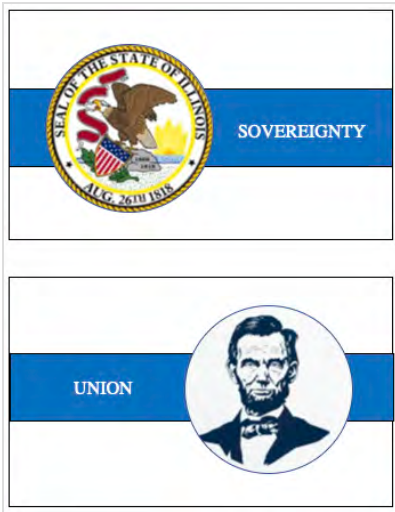
414

Relationship to Illinois

CITIZEN OF THE STATE. RESIDENT.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Proposal for flag design for the state of Illinois IIDesign elements1. The horizontal blue stripe is taken from the Illinois Centennial Flag.2. The front would have the illustration of the state seal but with the words “seal of” removed.3. The back would have an illustration of Abraham Lincoln, similar to the one in the design. This would make the Illinois flag the second flag in the union with different image on the back. Two words from the state motto would be used.



415

Relationship to Illinois

I've traveled to Illinois a couple times in my lifetime. And is very close to my home state, Minnesota. Have gone to Chicago for concerts and vacations.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Two Stars Represent Chicago and Springfield. The purple flower is the Blossom, the Illinois State Flower. And the un-rectangular shape of the flag is a very simplified Illinois turned sideways. And can also look like pizza, more specifically Chicago-styled pizza. The Red represents the Government, and the blue represents Justice.



416

Relationship to Illinois

This is a joint submission. [REDACTED] is a poet and lifelong Illinoisan who grew up in Metamora, graduated from Northern Illinois University, worked at Starved Rock, and will soon move to Germantown Hills. [REDACTED] is a YouTuber whose family settled in Chicago when they first arrived in the US and has a large amount of family in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired in part by Wallace Rice's centennial flag, this design simplifies his 20 small stars into a triangle (colored violet to commemorate Illinois' state flower). The Five-pointed star in the left-center has been changed to a Marian Star to reflect the influence of Chicago and the blue stripe represents the many waterways that define Illinois.

417

Relationship to Illinois

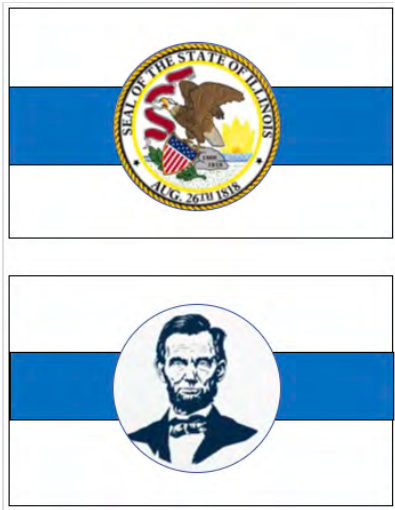
Citizen. Resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Proposal for flag design for the state of Illinois II September, 2024Design elements1.

The horizontal blue stripe is taken from the Illinois Centennial Flag.2. The front would have the illustration of the state seal but with the words "seal of" removed.3.

The back would have an illustration of Abraham Lincoln, similar to the one in the design. This would make the Illinois flag the second flag in the union with different image on the back.



418

Relationship to Illinois

This is a joint submission. [REDACTED] is a poet and lifelong Illinoisan who grew up in Metamora, graduated from Northern Illinois University, worked at Starved Rock, and will soon move to Germantown Hills. [REDACTED] is a YouTuber whose family settled in Chicago when they first arrived in the US and has a large amount of family in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Loosely inspired by Wallace Rice's centennial flag, this design features a field of three blue stripes representing Lake Michigan and the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The hoist side is colored violet to commemorate Illinois' state flower and shaped like a stylized letter "I." Within it upper hoist side is a six-pointed star representing Chicago and a five-pointed star representing Downstate Illinois as a whole (but implicitly Springfield).

419

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois since 1998.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design is very simple: 102 white stars on a blue background in a 6 by 17 grid. Each star represents one country in Illinois. The stars are sized according to the population size of each county. I hope this evokes how small and large counties are working side by side to build a prosperous and happy Illinois. Because population sizes will vary over time, this flag design can be slightly updated after each 10 year census; this will eventually create a sequence of similar but evolving flags.



420

Relationship to Illinois

Big fan, lived in a state neighboring illinois my whole life, will probably move to chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Has to anime girls, some arabic texts. it represents the culture of stwayb server



421



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2013 and ever since I could remember, I fell in love with every part of Illinois. I live in Wilmette, and go to Highcrest Middle School. I love Illinois so much, and It has some of the nicest people I know in this state. I can't imagine not living here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is, the blue represents the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The 21 stars stands for Illinois being the 21st state ever made.

422



Relationship to Illinois

This is a joint submission. Anna Kaye-Rogers is a poet and lifelong Illinoisan who grew up in Metamora, graduated from Northern Illinois University, worked at Starved Rock, and will soon move to Germantown Hills. Sam Aronow is a YouTuber whose family settled in Chicago when they first arrived in the US and has a large amount of family in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Loosely inspired by Wallace Rice's centennial flag, this design features a field of three blue stripes representing the Illinois, Mississippi, and Ohio Rivers. The hoist side features a blue band representing Lake Michigan and a violet band to commemorate Illinois' state flower, shaped like a stylized letter "I." Within it upper hoist side is a six-pointed star representing Chicago and a five-pointed star representing Downstate Illinois as a whole (but implicitly Springfield).

423

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Bartlett, IL before heading out to the PNW for college and now law school. I remember distinctly emailing some elected officials to try and get a commission of this type going because I think Illinois can do so much better! So I am glad it is happening! Further, in my undergraduate career I wrote my thesis about the salience of symbolism in vexillology. Additionally, just think of how much better Daley Plaza will look when Illinois gets a pretty flag!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag can be broken into three parts – the blue stripes, the circle of stars, and the center emblem. The blue stripes represent the waterways making up IL's borders – Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash Rivers. The larger block to the right is for Lake Michigan. The circle of 21 stars is for IL's addition to the US. The emblem is a cross-cut of corn to symbolize IL's heartiness and growth as a state – Corn is the most profitable IL crop anyways. Additionally, the center symbol can be changed.

424

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and except for a brief period of time during college, I've lived here my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has three "sections", the blue horizontal bars, the yellow center, and the central red star. The blue bars have a dual meaning; they represent both the major waters that bound Illinois (Lake Michigan to the east and the Mississippi River to the west), or Illinois sitting in the middle of the country (i.e., the Atlantic and Pacific oceans). The yellow square represents Illinois as an agricultural powerhouse, and the red star is a call to the Chicago city flag and the jewel of the midwest



425

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois spending vast majority of my life in the state. I've been to city and country seeing historical buildings, grasslands, cornfields and interesting people.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I tried to keep elements from the original flag while also adding to a modern simplistic spin to it to hopefully make a timeless design that will last for generations. The founding year is in the closest part of the foreground with the sun from the original design and American colors throughout the entire flag uniting our state with the entirety of America.



426

Relationship to Illinois

I don't have one in a traditional sense. I have visited IL, and Lincoln is one of my favorite Presidents. I just love flags and design for fun. I understand if this disqualifies me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I kept most if it white to reflect and pay homage to the existing Illinois flag. The blue is for the waterways of the state, and for commerce. The Orange is for the prairies, agriculture, and industry. The large star is the 21st star for the admission of Illinois to the Union as the 21st state, and the smaller 20 stars for the 20 states of the Union at the time Illinois joined.



427

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I have lived in this state my whole life. I had originally lived in Champaign, Illinois, but then I moved to the small town of Ogden, Illinois. I am proud to inhabit this state, and am willing to turn in my submission for a new state flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top-right portion of the flag is meant to symbolize Lake Michigan and the light blue on Chicago's flag, the largest city in Illinois. The bottom left portion represents corn, and therefore, the state's large patch of farmland, especially around its central and southern regions. The horizontal green band stands for prairie grass, due to Illinois being the prairie state. Finally the purple star once again represents Chicago, though it is purple to represent the violet. (State flower)

428

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here my entire life, born and raised in north aurora. I am a soldier in the US army reserves stationed at Arlington heights. I am a collage student currently studying at Wabunsee community college in sugar grove. I'm proud to be from Illinois and I want a flag to show that.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

To start, the Light blue lines at the top and the bottom represent the beautiful midwestern sky and Lake Michigan. next the dark blue represents the many rivers such as the Mississippi river, the Illinois river, the Fox river etc. next the six sided style star represents the culture history and people of Illinois. The Hexagon represents unity and our central role in the Midwest, each side representing Illinois borders with Lake Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

429

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here my entire life, born and raised in north aurora. I am a soldier in the US army reserves stationed at Arlington heights. I am a collage student currently studying at Wabaunsee community college in sugar grove. I'm proud to be from Illinois and I want a flag to show that. (Variation 2)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

To start, the Light blue lines at the top and the bottom represent the beautiful midwestern sky and Lake Michigan. next the dark blue represents the many rivers such as the Mississippi river, the Illinois river, the Fox river etc. next the six sided style star represents the culture history and people of Illinois. The Hexagon represents unity and our central role in the Midwest, each side representing Illinois borders with Lake Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

430

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Moline and raised in neighboring Rock Island and have lived there all my life until now in my college years. I love my state and have always daydreamed about a new flag I could proudly hang for all to see.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Situated on a blue field to represent the flowing waters of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers as well as Lake Michigan, this flag sees a white-tailed deer, the state's animal, enclosed within a ring of 21 stars to signify Illinois' place as the 21st state in the union and rests its foot upon text labeled "1818", the date of Illinois' founding. The stag looks to a Chicago-esque six-pointed star representing the values that Illinois strives towards with Illinois' nickname below.

431

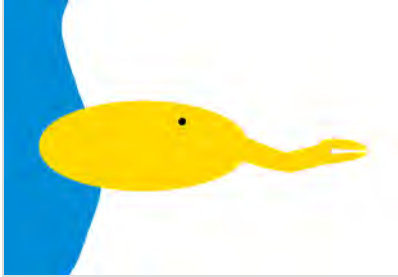
Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here all my life and enjoyed it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is very simple but it has the blue winding on the left of the flag to represent Mississippi river and then the ovular creature is the Tullimonstrum, a fossil found first and only in Illinois. I figured it would be something that would make the flag interesting and give it a sense of humor as well as character. It also is easy and fun for children to draw because what child doesn't love dinosaur like creatures?

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tullimonstrum>



432

Relationship to Illinois

8:19 PM (1 minute ago)to meI've lived in Illinois all my life and plan to stay here after high school, maybe even going into a state school like UIUCI've always enjoyed researching Illinois and its history. I consider it to be a large part of my identity and a great influence on my interest in academicsI've also always been interested in flags, only getting into vexillology recently. I have always thought that the old flag could be better. I'm honored to have that chance.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The entire design, as a whole, is a huge nod to the Lincoln family coat of armsThe size ratio from the old flag is maintained, as well as the white background, which represents Illinois' snowy wintersThe green cross represents the grassland in our "Prairie State" outside of the busy citiesThe star in the middle is 6-pointed, just like the ones on the flag of Chicago and Cook County. The star itself both represents Chicago and Illinois' admission into the Union.



433



Relationship to Illinois

I have been a lifelong resident of the best state in the unions: Illinois! A father, husband, business owner and musician focused on community.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a celebrations of the music scene of Illinois which has been the birthplace and home to some of the most important musicians in the world and is of course the birthplace of the blues!

434



Relationship to Illinois

a Teen in the age of 17 for one thing I have Been born and raised here from a Trailer park near route 66 to living what was once the main glass manufacturer In the USA living as a illinoisian for many a years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

white is of the past seen on the original flag and mine as being of the sign of the beginning of our state as the blue being American Blue being our own state being connected with the United States. and the star being a sign of our use of creating corn and the farmers who help give us the corn and yea that is I guess my version of the state of Illinois' flag



435

Relationship to Illinois

I live here! I love Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My dog is beautiful just like the state of Illinois

436



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised here and a Few miles to The Emerald City of the Prairie (Chicago)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue signifies the Union with The United States of America being near close to the original blue of the American flag the Yellow at the end of the flag is to Represent the use and farming of corn and the French Ensign is to represent our Origins once being a French territory and the Explorers as well

437



Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White = Purity Orange stands for Illinois PRIDE Blue represents all the beautiful rivers that run through the state. Cardinal representing the state bird.

438



Relationship to Illinois

Illinois State Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White= purity orange= illinois pride blue= rivers of illinois cardinal= the state bird



439

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Skyscraper on leftside, National Forest on the rightside, divided by a river. WE ARE ILLINOIS

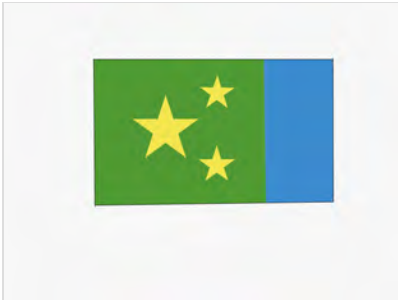
440

Relationship to Illinois

I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I am proud to live in Illinois and learned about Illinois in 6th grade Integrated Global class. I have lived in Illinois for most of my life although I was not born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green on my flag represents the vast land of Illinois. The blue depicts the major bodies of water in and around Illinois such as Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The large star in the center stands for Illinois as an anti-slavery state. The smaller star closer to the top shows the construction of the Underground Railroad which a major part of took place in Illinois. The star closer to the bottom symbolizes the indigenous people that lived in Illinois tens of thousands of years ago.



441

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in the year 2013. I have lived my whole life in Wilmette IL I know the history of IL I have learned a lot about Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Explain the meaning behind your flag: In my I.G.S class at Highcrest Middle School, We watched the TED talk about good flags and bad flags. I am very familiar with the five flag design principles. The blue background portrays freedom. That's because Illinois was the first state to sign The 13th Amendment which freed slaves. The yellow line displays the corn fields and bright people! The purple stripe shows the state flower violet. The red star indicates revolution and the state bird (cardinal)!



442

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Rockford, graduated from UIUC, and recently moved back from out of state. Every time I travel across the state, I am reminded how vibrant Illinois is from rolling fields dotted with wind turbines in the summer, to the shimmering Lake Michigan, to forests covered in a fresh layer of snow, and that beauty is what inspired this flag design.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Glaciers gave way to plains, forests, lakes, and rivers that have become home to millions from Cahokia to Chicago, and this Illinois flag concisely conveys both the land and its history. Beyond the Prairie State's landscape, the White, Old Glory Blue, and Hunter Green also signify our state's economic strengths in renewable energy, transportation, and agriculture. "State Sovereignty, National Union" is shown as a 5-point star encircled by the 20 states that Illinois joined in 1818.



443

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up across Illinois and went to high school in the Chicago suburbs. I also interned with my congresswoman in college!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 blue lines rep the 3 major bodies of water, the horizontal line on top is Lake MI (it also reps the IL River, I&M Canal, and Hennepin Canal), the vertical line parallel to the header reps the MS River, the the horizontal line at the bottom reps the OH river. All 3 of these bodies of water connect in or around IL. The color is a reference to Chi. The 21 stars are a ref to the bicentennial flag, with a 6p star being IL the 21st state. The gold is a reference to ag (corn, soybeans, etc.)



444

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up across Illinois and went to high school in the Chicago suburbs. I also interned with my congresswoman in college!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 blue lines rep the 3 major bodies of water; the vertical line parallel to the header reps the MS River, the the horizontal line at the bottom reps the OH river, the last line that connects the header to the top right represents the IL River and Canals to Lake MI. All 3 of these bodies of water connect in or around IL. The color is a reference to Chi. The 21 stars are a ref to the bicentennial flag, with a 6p star being IL the 21st state. The gold is a reference to ag (corn, etc.)



445

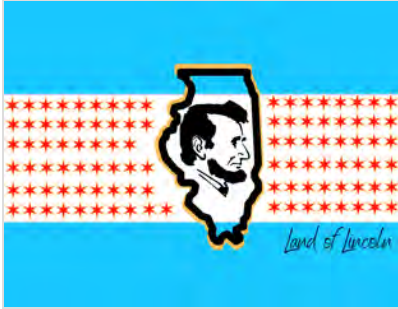
Relationship to Illinois

I don't have any, I just thought it'd be fun to make a flag for Illinois!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Stars - There are 21 of them on the star to represent that Illinois became the 21st state in the US. Blue Triangle - US flag inspired. Brown - The soil. Red - The sunrise. Cream - The sunshine.





446

Relationship to Illinois

Life long resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A take on the Chicago flag but 102 stars for all 102 counties in Illinois. And of course Land of Lincoln.

447

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I went to university here and I am now giving back to my community by working in the public school system. I think Illinois represents a welcoming community for people of all walks of life. Not only does it perform well in measurable categories such as GDP, but it is also a leader in the country's fight for equality and civil rights.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Orange represents the Illinois Confederation, the original inhabitants of the region. Blue represents Illinois' waterways. They have supported large-scale civilizations for nearly a millennium. White represents unity. Just as the Illini Confederation united several tribes, IL seeks to bring together people of all kinds and give them a place where they feel welcome and safe. In the emblem, the 21 stars represent IL as the 21st state. The Chicago star is also included as it is iconic to IL.

448

Relationship to Illinois

I have read about your contest for a new state flag, and would like to submit my own designs. While I currently do not have a strong personal connection to the state of Illinois, I am a passionate amateur vexillographer, and have seen first-hand how good redesigns of flags, as had recently occurred in the cities of Tulsa and Norman, can do to make a flag relevant part of an area's cultural framework.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Brown=Southern Illinois+Mississippi River
Gold=Central Illinois+Prairie
Light Blue=Northern Illinois+Lake Michigan
12-point Red Star=12 Tribes of the Illinois Confederation
Points on the star=10 Historical events (Cahokia, Illinois Confederation, French Rule, British Rule, Northwest Ordinance, Admittance as US State, Life of Lincoln, Civil War, Great Migration, Nuclear Age), one point for present day diversity, one point for future of state

449

Relationship to Illinois

I am originally from Pennsylvania. I moved to Chicago in 2012 without ever having been to Illinois before, but I am extremely proud to call Illinois my home! I often see the state flag at a courthouse or when I frequently travel in and out of O'Hare. It is a great symbol to see, welcoming me back home every time. I received my education at Loyola University Chicago as an adult student, having graduated with my BA in Paralegal Studies. I have lived in Ravenswood in Chicago for over 10 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

(1) A 16-point star honoring Abraham Lincoln as the 16th US President; (2) an 8-point star representing the cardinal compass directions; (3) the 5-point star representing Illinois' singular star on Old Glory, but also marking its central location the US, paying homage to its current and historical centrality in American politics, commerce, transportation, and industry; (4) bright goldenrod triband, representing the Illinois landscape and its agricultural fields.

450

Relationship to Illinois

My design holds personal significance, as my grandparents once lived in Illinois, and I have fond memories of visiting the state, particularly Metropolis, Illinois, during vacations with my family. These experiences deepened my appreciation for Illinois' history and culture, which inspired me to incorporate

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design aims to blend Illinois' early French heritage with its modern statehood, using the French flag as a nod to its exploration history and the state seal to affirm its current governance and identity. The year 1673 serves as a reminder of the foundational events that set Illinois on its path to becoming a state, combining the past with the present in a symbolic and meaningful way.



451

Relationship to Illinois

The only time I have had an address outside of Illinois was while I was in training in the Illinois National Guard. I am a life long voting and tax paying citizen of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Stay with the one we have. There is nothing wrong with it except people who have a stupid woke idea that everything must be changed. There are enough wrong things in this state that you can work on, Lord knows you have made a mess of the ones your working on



452

Relationship to Illinois

My family moved to Illinois in 1974, when I was 5. I grew up in Evanston and graduated from Evanston Township High School. I returned to Illinois in 2000, lived in Oak Park until 2003 and in Chicago until 2007, and returned to Chicago permanently in 2011.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is an abstracted map of the state, turned 90 degrees counterclockwise. The red star in the canton represents Chicago. The white hoist represents the glaciers that shaped the land of the northern part of the state. The thin blue line between hoist and field represents the Illinois river. The yellow field represents corn, and a brown log cabin charge honors the state's most famous and distinguished resident, Abraham Lincoln.

454

Relationship to Illinois

My family moved to Illinois in 1974, when I was 5. I grew up in Evanston and graduated from Evanston Township High School. I returned to Illinois in 2000, lived in Oak Park until 2003 and in Chicago until 2007, and returned to Chicago permanently in 2011.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Against a yellow field representing corn, four circular blue charges represent four modes of transportation that shaped Illinois: rivers (a riverboat paddlewheel), railroads (a train car wheel), highways (a tire and hubcap) and jet aircraft (a turbine).

455

Relationship to Illinois

My family moved to Illinois in 1974, when I was 5. I grew up in Evanston and graduated from Evanston Township High School. I returned to Illinois in 2000, lived in Oak Park until 2003 and in Chicago until 2007, and returned to Chicago permanently in 2011.* I missed that there was a three-submission limit! I would like to WITHDRAW submission No. 453 and submit this design in its place.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A corn-yellow field with a blue base and chief (representing rivers and sky) and a black fess (representing railroads and highways), overlaid with a white oak leaf erased in white. The white oak leaf may be replaced by any other state symbol, e.g., a common milkweed leaf or a deer's head.



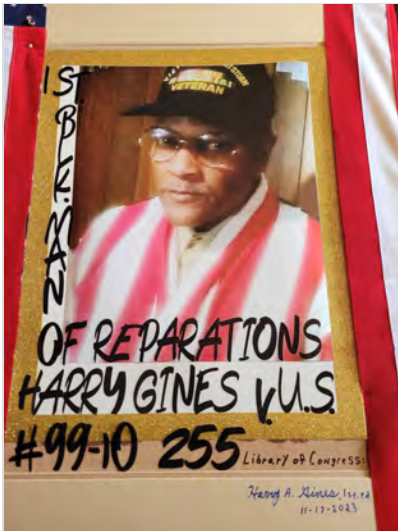
456

Relationship to Illinois

A flag represents a region & culture the World recognizes the ppl of such land.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

google: Harry A. Gines vs. U.S. 99-10-255 " writ of cert (granted) " = only few U.S. Blk. men have a writ of cert. granted by U.S. S. Court..... It gives me great honor to be able to apply for Illinois State Flag.. The above mentioned case depicts the original writings of President A. Lincoln, 13th amendment with 20 sec. approved by cong... thus, I Harry A. Gines, in fact can be noted in U.S. History as the 1st. U.S. Blk. Man of Reparations in U.S. History .



457

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of the town of Quincy, Illinois. I have resided there for nine years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have based the flag off of the centennial Illinois Flag. There are 3 stars to represent the Country, the state, and the area anyone resides in. The dark blue horizontal line shows the water of the Mississippi or any other river in Illinois, also the justice and perseverance of Illinois. The red horizontal lines show the connection between Illinois as a state and its connection to the country. The red color represents the courage of the Illinois people. And white means the peace Illinois seeks.



458

Relationship to Illinois

Family first settled in western Illinois, Galesburg, in the 1800's and worked in the railroad industry as conductors. Grandfather was a physician in Knoxville and Galesburg area, attended Northwestern University medical school early 1930's.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is a center: of peoples, country and many types of land and water. The blank center symbolizes a place for everyone to fill in their own life stories.



459

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag includes the state tree and state flower as well as part of the Illinois state seal.



460



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Plainfield.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents what I feel are the key parts that created Illinois and what makes Illinois so amazing to live in. I have included Chicago, a vital part of Illinois that was very important in the state's growth. I have also included Abraham Lincoln who has made great contributions to our nation and whom I am proud to be from the same state. I have also included a bass, which represents my love for the state and its amazing fishing opportunities.

461



Relationship to Illinois

My relationship is that of a dual citizenship Spanish-American Citizen living in Cook County Illinois for the majority of the year. The dichotomy between the majority red and crop producing rural areas and majority blue and industrious cities has always interested me. Keeping this in mind, I have attempted to put forward ideas that can meet the thoughts and beliefs of all residents of the state.

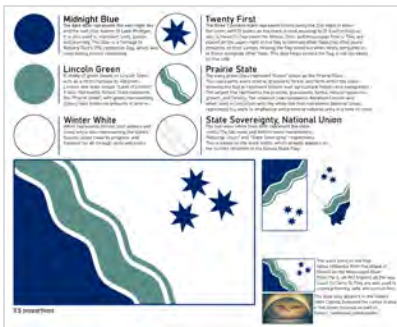
Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is meant to be representative of both major "culture areas" of the state. The yellow takes cues from the flag of Ukraine represents the vast farms of corn and soy that fill the midwest, whereas the blue represents the Great Lake Michigan on the "coast of this state. The white six pointed is six pointed to be similar to the Chicago flag to symbolize the large Urban centers, and white to be closer to the flag of the Union.

462

Relationship to Illinois

I am a high school student from Chicago, Illinois; I was always fond of stuff like history, maps, and flags, and especially began to grow interested in my own state's history, culture, and systems. I was both born and raised in Illinois, and hoped that in the future the state would begin to show off more of its history, culture, and ideals for the rest of the state/country to see, including even a new state flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue for the night sky/Lake Michigan. Shade of green named Lincoln Green as homage to Abraham Lincoln and Prairie. White for cold winters and progress. 3 7-pointed stars for IL as the 21st state, stars for the IL, MS, and OH rivers; on the right to contrast flags w/cantons. Big green line for prairies, farms, etc. Small one represents Lincoln. Two white lines for the national motto, 'National Union' on top connecting to Lincoln's green line. Wavy line for IL's shape on the MS river bordering MO.

463

Relationship to Illinois

I've called Illinois home my entire life. I grew up and received my education in its rural heartlands, and now, as an adult, I'm building my family in its bustling urban centers. I've had the privilege of experiencing both sides — appreciating the fields and the city streets alike. I have come to love the diverse communities in a state where everyone is welcome and protected.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In a time when divisions can feel stronger than ever, this flag is a call to remember that while we may walk different paths, we are bound by the same soil. The deep blue represents urban vibrancy, while green reflects Illinois' agricultural heritage and rural lands. Three stars stand for the northern, central, and southern regions, and the stripes are their unity. Prairie grass pays homage to our nickname, and an eagle to symbolize Illinois' protective spirit.



464

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1968 and lived there until leaving to attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I graduated from the U of I in 1991 and moved to Missouri for a job. I returned to Illinois in 2007 to attend DePaul University College of Law, and I have made Chicago my home ever since. In total, I have lived in Illinois for over 40 of my 56 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

BETWEEN THE GREAT LAKES AND THE GREAT PLAINS LIES THE GREAT STATE OF ILLINOIS Orange represents optimism, openness, and midwestern warmth; white represents brightness that comprises every color of the spectrum and the unlimited potential of a blank canvas; blue represents strength, loyalty, and natural beauty. The combined colors represent the sun rising into the sky; the grain and water of agriculture; and our flagship university. The flowing lines emphasize the waters that shaped IL history.

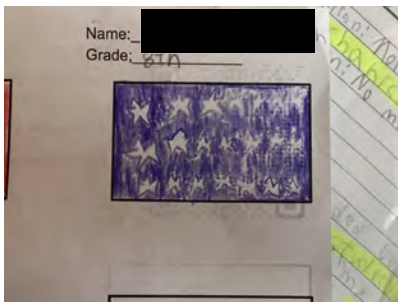
465

Relationship to Illinois

Please see previous submission.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of this flag submission is simple and concise. It is based on the upper left of the flag of the USA, but instead of 50 stars it has 21, as it is the 21st state admitted to the union.



466

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised and still currently live in the fantastic state of Illinois. As the son of a 4th generation Illinois farmer, the rich soil of this state practically runs in my veins. It is a blessing to live somewhere that you can witness the strong agricultural foundation of a state at work along with having access to a truly world-class city such as Chicago, along with the hundreds of other vibrant communities and countless beautiful natural areas scattered across the landscape.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is best viewed from bottom to top. The green bar celebrates our agricultural roots & our protected natural areas. The blue bar commemorates the I&M Canal as well as our lakes & waterways. Violet is both the color of our state flower & women's suffrage, led by Jane Addams & Ida B. Wells. The rectangle honors the first skyscraper & symbolizes what we've built. The star, a nod to Wallace Rice, represents the creative spark of our future. The rectangle & star form an "i" for Illinois.

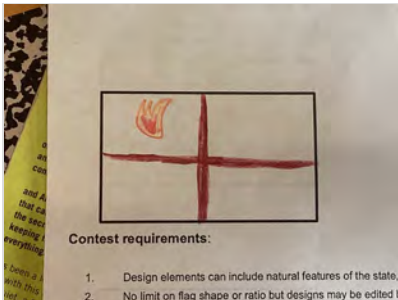
467

Relationship to Illinois

Please see previous submission.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is meant to symbolize both the pre-colonial and colonial past of the state and how their shadows still live over the state. It is the St. Georges cross to symbolize the English colonial past with the fire to symbolize the council of three fires, a Native psuedo state present in the states pre-colonial history.



468

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised and still currently live in the fantastic state of Illinois. As the son of a 4th generation Illinois farmer, the rich soil of this state practically runs in my veins. It is a blessing to live somewhere that you can witness the strong agricultural foundation of a state at work along with having access to a truly world-class city such as Chicago, along with the hundreds of other vibrant communities and countless beautiful natural areas scattered across the landscape.



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469

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my proud home. When I first arrived in Chicago, its beauty and architecture mesmerized me. After living in Florida, I returned for the culture and hardworking people. I love exploring parks like Starved Rock and became a U.S. citizen here, deepening my connection. Now living in Evanston, I'm inspired by Illinois' history and charm and have no plans to leave. It's a state where hard work leads to success, and that's why I love it.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois - A visual story: This design highlights the state's history, beauty, and diversity. A golden diamond symbolizes the prairies and agricultural wealth. Two blue shades represent Illinois' water resources: Lake Michigan (light blue) and the Mississippi River (dark blue). A black arrowhead points to progress and honors Native American and industrial heritage. The red represents strength and resilience, while the cardinal, symbolized in the red, black, and yellow, reflects Illinois' spirit.

470

Relationship to Illinois



I have been a resident since birth, 1982. I lived in Lake County until college, when I moved to Chicago to attend DePaul. I haven't left the city since! I

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white field represents the White Oak (state tree) that is found in every county and unites the state, the blue diagonal bar represents the waterways, airways, roads, and rail that make the state a transportation hub, the red star represent the urban, and the green star represents the rural/land

471

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Illinois in 2012, and I have lived there for my entire life. I go to school in Wilmette, Illinois, and in my Integrated Global Studies class, we learned about Illinois's culture, history, and landforms. I have used that knowledge to create the attached flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my IGS (Integrated Global Studies) class, we watched the TED Talk about good flag design. I am familiar with the Five Flag Design Principles from Good Flag, Bad Flag, and I have practiced designing flags in school. On my proposed flag, the blue stripe represents the Mississippi River on the entire west border. The green stripe represents that Illinois is a prairie state. The blue circle represents Lake Michigan, and the yellow circle represents freedom because Illinois was opposed to slavery.

472

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois all my life. I was born and raised in Lake County, went to college at the University of Illinois in Champaign, and now I reside in the Ravenswood neighborhood of Chicago. I love this state to my core. I want to raise my kids and spend my final days here. I believe we represent the best of what America has to offer.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white stripe with the red stars represents Chicago. The gold stripe represents our state's proud agricultural roots and rural communities. It is the color of ripe corn, one of our flagship crops. The stripes sit between two blue triangles. They represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, the two bodies of water that bound our state. The overarching message of this flag is unity. Although the rural and urban parts of Illinois often disagree, we are all a part of the same great state.

473

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Central Illinois resident whose family first settled in the Peoria area in the 1840s.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three colors of blue, white, and green each have a distinct purpose. The blue represents Lake Michigan and Illinois' many rivers and streams such as the Illinois, Mississippi, and Ohio Rivers. The white represents Illinois' future prosperity. The green represents Illinois' agricultural identity as well as efforts to conserve our state's natural beauty. The flag also contains 21 stars to represent our place as the 21st state. The middle and largest star represents Chicago, the largest city.

474

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since 2008 and have been coming to Illinois for Thanksgiving every year since 1985.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This proposed flag simplifies the scene featured in the Illinois State Seal. A bright yellow sun sits at the center above four stripes. Green, blue, and white are taken from our existing flag to symbolize our state's land, water and sky, while a new violet stripe is introduced to represent our state flower: the violet.



475

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Central Illinois. I am a teacher at a middle school in my hometown. I am a proud resident and citizen.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This tri-color flag showcases the symbolic success of Illinoisans - both before European arrival and after. The green represents the rolling prairies and forests of our beautiful state. The white stripe between the green space showcases our agriculture, honoring Illinois' hardworking farmers. The center is a four pointed star - symbolic of the Native Americans, French, English, and United States of America. The star rises into white - a blank canvas of our future. From the Prairie, a Promise.



476

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of the state of Illinois, and reside in Chicago's Woodlawn neighborhood.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag brings together the heart of Illinois with symbols like the Willis Tower, green windmills, rolling farmland, and Lake Michigan. It celebrates our blend of modern city life and traditional rural roots, showcasing what makes Illinois special and memorable.



477

Relationship to Illinois

I have read about your contest for a new state flag, would like to submit my own design. While I currently do not have a strong personal connection to the state of Illinois, I am a passionate vexillographer, and have seen first-hand how good redesigns of flags, as had recently occurred in the cities of Tulsa and Norman, can do to make a flag relevant part of an area's cultural framework.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Brown=Mississippi River and Southern Illinois
Gold=Prairie and Central Illinois
Light Blue=Lake Michigan and Northern Illinois
Hoist Side Red Star=Rulers (Native Americans, France, Great Britain, United States)
Central Star=Presidents associated with Illinois (Lincoln, Grant, Reagan, Obama)
Fly Side Star=Diversity (Illinoisans of European, African, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Hispanic descent)

478

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and have lived here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the waterways of Illinois that make up our western, southern, and part of our eastern borders, as well as the lakes and rivers we have), the orange represents Illinois agriculture as Illinois grows more pumpkins than any other state. The 21 stars stand for Illinois being the 21st state of the union, Pres. Lincoln's silhouette represents Illinois history as being we are the Land of Lincoln, and the map represents the celebration of the people of Illinois.



479

Relationship to Illinois

■■■■■ -I have lived in Illinois my entire life (1960).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

■■■■■ -My flag symbolizes what I love about the state!





480

Relationship to Illinois

■■■■■ - I have lived in Illinois my entire life (1960).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

■■■■■ - My flag symbolizes what I love about the state!



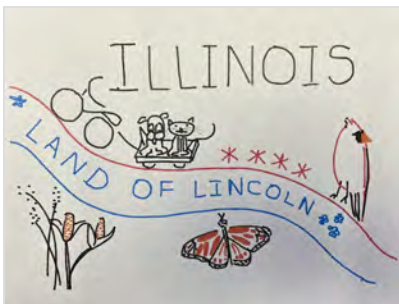
481

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I am a student in Rockford.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue Y in the middle of the flag represents the Chicago River, a reminder of one of the most impressive technological feats in Illinois history. There are 21 stars to represent Illinois being the 21st state. 13 of the stars are blue to show that Illinois was the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment. The feather represents the native history of the state. The ax represents Lincoln, and the grain represents all of Illinois's farmland and farmers.



482

Relationship to Illinois

■■■■■ - I have lived in Illinois my entire life (1960).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

■■■■■ - My flag symbolizes what I love about the state of Illinois. All my drawings are state symbols: northern cardinal, cycling, shelter animals, violets, monarch butterfly, and corn (who doesn't love corn!)

483

Relationship to Illinois

Originally from the charming town of Princeton, IL, and now living in Chicago's Edgewater neighborhood for the past twelve years. With my family's multi-generational roots in Illinois, I truly cherish the states natural beauty, from the Great Lakes to the scenic trails of Starved Rock State Park. Family road trips were always a highlight for me, from exploring the historic streets of Galena to visiting Superman in Metropolis. I am proud to call myself an Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features three Illini Navy stripes representing Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and the Ohio River, which define Illinois' boundaries. A classic six-pointed star, inspired by the Chicago City Flag, each point symbolizes major achievements in our states history. The flag's Illini gold and prairie fields honor Illinois' agricultural heritage, reflecting the North, Central, and Southern regions. A distinctive white bar on the left represents Illinois' forward-looking spirit.



484

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state of Illinois my whole life. I was born up in Centerville Illinois and then adopted by my parents and lived in the town of Herrin my whole life. I have went to school through college and hopes of staying in the state during my future career.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag was created trying to use the features that Illinois is best at by color while maintaining a simplicity that can not strain the eye, and keep The Great Seal of Illinois as a center focal point. The colors chosen represent the pumpkin (as Illinois is the Pumpkin Capital) and represent the fall season. Illinois is an important agricultural center and I wanted to highlight the season of Harvest.



485

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the State of Illinois in Centerville, and adopted by my parents and have lived in the town of Herrin my whole life. I have grew up in this state and wish to stay in the state for my future career.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is different from my other submission that I have made. I wanted to highlight some features of the state through a little bit more of a complex way while maintaining a simplicity to the design. The dark blue background represents Lake Michigan and the light blue seal represents the color of Lake Michigan off the shores of Chicago. The plants at the bottom represents "The Prairie State" and the state flower, the violet, by being colored after the flower.



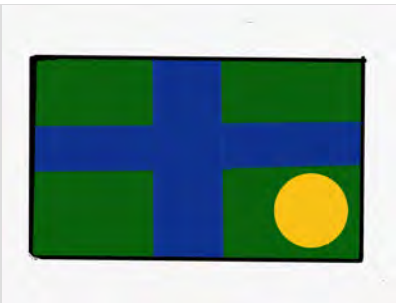
486

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived my entire eleven years in Illinois. I go to school in Wilmette Illinois, where I learned about flags in my integrated global studies class. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I was born in Illinois in 2013.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my integrated global studies class at highcrest middle school, we watched the TED talk about good flag design. I am familiar with the five flag design principles. The blue cross represents the four main rivers in Illinois, the yellow circle represents the sun, and the green rectangles represent the large amount of Illinois that is prairie or forest.



487

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and attended university in Peoria, Illinois. I am an Eagle Scout who grew up playing in and among cornfields. Though I now live in a different state for work, my heart remains in the flatlands.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design has three colors. The blue stripe on the left, or flagpole side, represents the mighty Mississippi river and the western frontier of Illinois. In the center lies a yellow corn emblem upon a field of lush green. These represent the agricultural backbone of our state, and together serve as a symbol for a people who make America's heartland so great. Two stripes on the corn represent upstate and downstate - seemingly separate, but truthfully side-by-side and part of the same whole.

488

Relationship to Illinois

I've been an Illinois resident since I was born. I was born in Chicago, and my family moved to Naperville when I was 5. Since then, I've always admired the sights of my city, particularly the tall grass prairie that was extremely close to my home. I've always been in love with nature, and I contribute a lot of that to my life in Naperville. I live in front of a large retention pond, which was always a hub for wildlife, between birds, beavers, and coyotes. My love for animals came from Illinois.



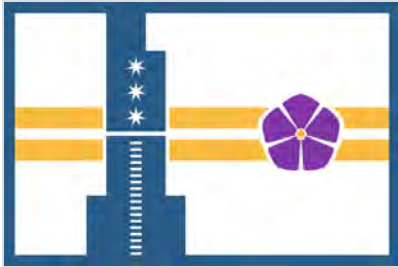
Explain the meaning behind your flag

Living in the "Prairie State", I wanted to depict these prairies as well as the sprawling cornfields that cover IL. The center depicts an ear of corn that also resembles a person raising their arms toward the US Eagle, showing we can uplift the US as part of a "National Union". The green and yellow triangles represent the tallgrass prairies and cornfields. The blue in the top right represents Lake Michigan, and the 6-pointed star Chicago, as both are in the top right of Illinois.

489

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life: from growing up in a northwest Chicago suburb, to attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, to now living in Chicago. Both of my parents and all of my grandparents have roots in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs, as Chicago was where my great-grandparents settled when immigrating from Europe.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue border represents the Mississippi in the west and the Ohio in the south. The blue structure represents the Illinois River: The bottom half as Cahokia Mounds located near the end of the river with 18 steps for the founding year of 1818, the top half the Willis Tower with 3 7-point stars for the 21st state and the 3 major regions of the state, with the white border dividing them as the Illinois Waterway. The state flower and the two gold stripes are the two major crops: corn and soybeans.

490

Relationship to Illinois

I have no relationship with Illinois. However, this flag represents my view of Illinois as an outsider, and my appreciation for fellow Americans in another state. (SIDE NOTE: upon request, I can edit aspects of the flag/change the colors. I also have a version of my flag that has "1818" at the bottom. Upon request, I can produce this version. I will mail in the specific dimensions for my flag as well. This flag is intended to be 3 x 5 ft.)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green in my flag represents Illinois' nature. The yellow-gold represents Illinois' agriculture as well as the golden quality Illinois' nature possesses in the fall. The shield is a re-imagination of the shield on the current Illinois flag. There are 13 stars on the shield representing the 13 colonies (like on the current flag), and the four stripes are shaped like a rolling agricultural/farm hill and stand for the four words in the Illinois state motto (State Sovereignty, National Union).

491

Relationship to Illinois

I have read about your contest for a new state flag, would like to submit my own design. While I currently do not have a strong personal connection to the state of Illinois, I am a passionate vexillographer, and have seen first-hand how good redesigns of flags, as had recently occurred in the nearby cities of Tulsa and Norman, can do to make a flag relevant part of an area's cultural framework.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Arranged in a similar manner to the US flag=U.S StateBrown=South Illinois and the Mississippi RiverYellow=Central Illinois and PrairieBlue=North Illinois and Lake MichiganRed 12-point star=12 Tribes of the Illinois ConfederationPoints of star=Notable events in Illinois history (Cahokia, Illinois Confederation Formation, French Rule, British Rule, Northwest Ordinance, Statehood, Deere Steel Plow, Abraham Lincoln, Civil War, Industrialization, Great Migration, Chicago Pile-1)

492

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois native, born and raised in the capital city Springfield my first 21 years and then moved to attend the School of the Art Institute of Chicago where I graduated with my BFA in 2019, and currently living in Aurora, IL as part-time professional artist and full time for the Illinois Department of Transportation. I have spent extensive time in the Chicagoland, the entire Mississippi Valley, Central and Southern regions of Illinois, making me very familiar with the state as a whole.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Center: an emblem of Abraham Lincoln Splitting rails in between a gear resting on top of and an anvil and a corn bundle with pumpkins at the bottom to show the juxtaposition of industry and agriculture for which all Illinois regions are prominently known and as an homage to the state crest on the original flag and the capital at center. The 4 Corners: The Blue represents the 4 major bodies of water that make up the corners of the state boundaries, The Red mimics the 4 stars of Chicago's flag.

493

Relationship to Illinois

Resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Bronze colored circle in the middle represents a penny and the hat in the circle represents Abraham Lincoln's hat because this is the land of Lincoln the yellow with the green triangles at the bottom looks like corn because we are known for agriculture and make a lot of corn. The blue on the sides represents nature sky and hope.



494

Relationship to Illinois

I have been living with my family in Illinois for almost 12 years now. I have went to school here since kindergarten, same with my brothers. I have made it to high school thus far. I also plan to got to university here as well. I have been all around Illinois, from Chicago, to the suburbs, and to the rural areas too. The landscape and nature is beautiful and I am grateful to be in such a wonderful state. I have always wanted to do something special for my community, or even Illinois as a whole.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stands for the waters of Lake Michigan and the waters of the Mississippi River, as well as the many other lakes in the state. The green stands for the abundance of fields and plains of Illinois. The white stands for purity. The sun has 21 points, which stand for Illinois being the 21st state. It also represents the big impact of Illinois on the United States. When the flag is looked at from right to left, you can make out an eye, which represents the visions of the people in Illinois.



495

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange and blue are the Illini colors, and the 21 stars represent how Illinois is the 21st state, and the 21st star (the big one in the middle) resembles the stars on the Chicago flag, and it's also popcorn colored because popcorn is Illinois' state snack.



496

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois and reside in Downers Grove, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Simple design using Franklin Gothic Bold font, State of Illinois colors (red, white, and blue), IL (everyone is familiar with the two-letter abbreviation for Illinois. The year 1818, when Illinois adopted its first constitution, and 2024, the year the State of Illinois adopted its new flag.



497

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is the Sesquicentennial flag used in Illinois in 1968. I think it has a very attractive design and is clearly representative of Illinois. The flag has 21 stars, the large one representing Illinois as the 21st state to be admitted to the Union. It could be adopted as is, or possibly "updated" by making the large star representing Illinois red with a white border.



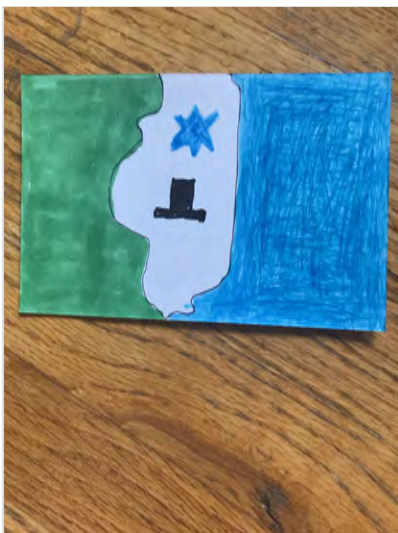
498

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features a white field in the shape of Illinois in the center. The green field represents agriculture and our great downstate regions. 76% of our land is agricultural. The blue represents our great waterways (Lake Michigan and the Illinois and Mississippi rivers), and their historic and present importance to our state. The star represents the Chicagoland and our urban areas. The black top hat logo represents our 16th President, and our heritage as "the Land of Lincoln".



499

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Downers Grove, grew up in Wheaton, and now reside in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the water bounding the state: the Mississippi River on the west, the Ohio River on the south, the Wabash River on the southeast, and Lake Michigan on the northeast. The center symbol is an 18-sided golden polygon within a green 18-pointed star. This represents the year of statehood, and it also suggests the appearance of a corn cob in its husk when viewed from above. The white plain is preserved from the current flag.



500

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and continue to be a resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

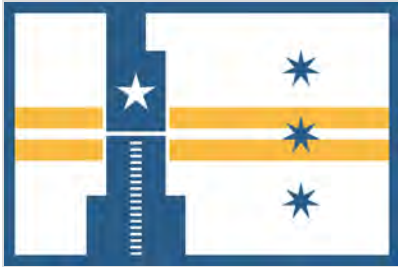
The sun references the rising sun in the Great Seal of Illinois, representing a new and bright future for Illinois. The sun has 21 points, representing Illinois as the 21st state. The white diamond in the center and the white bar along the middle of the flag represents Illinois' role as the center of trade and transportation in the United States. The Blue background represents Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River which forms the majority of Illinois' borders.



501

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life: from growing up in a northwest Chicago suburb, to attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, to now living in Chicago. Both of my parents and all of my grandparents have roots in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs, as Chicago was where my great-grandparents settled when immigrating from Europe.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue border represents the Mississippi in the west and the Ohio in the south. The blue structure represents the Illinois River: The bottom half as Cahokia Mounds located near the end of the river with 18 steps for the founding year of 1818, the top half the Willis Tower, with the white border dividing them as the Illinois Waterway and statehood star. The 3 7-point stars for the 21st state and the 3 major regions of the state. The two gold stripes are the two major crops: corn and soybeans.

502

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my adopted home for the past 14 years. It's the best place I've ever lived.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I tried to incorporate motifs from the previous state flag, notably the interesting sun shape, which I also adapted into a six-pointed star to pay homage to the flag of Chicago. The four red fields represent the four words of our state motto: "State Sovereignty, National Union." The blue field below represents the Illinois River. Above, the Chicago River. The combined effect of the red fields and the royal blue field is a tribute to the stars and stripes of our national flag.

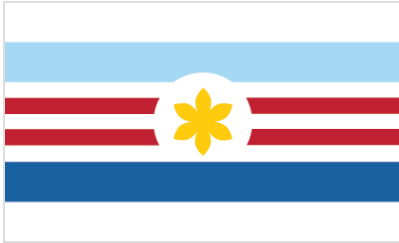


Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

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Illinois Flag Commission Submissions

504



Relationship to Illinois

Other than the time I spent serving in the United States Navy, I have lived my entire life in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The field of 21 stars represents Illinois joining as the 21st state of the Union. The horizontal bars represent Illinois agriculture, the yellow and green of the prominent row crops. The blue bar represents Illinois' technological advancements from Deere's tiller to Fermilab's advancements in the atomic age. The blue also represents the rivers and lakes that connect us to the rest of the nation. The white field is bordered by a representation of the Illinois River, part of the water highway.

505



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago in October 2022 to serve as an AmeriCorps volunteer at Wilbur Wright College, one of the city's community colleges, where I created fliers, pamphlets, and digital designs about student mental health and wellbeing for the college's Wellness Center. I moved into a small co-living community where I met people from all stripes and from many different countries. Now in my third AmeriCorps service term, I am committed to my new home city.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue stripes: "liberty and justice for all." Each stripe represents "liberty" and "justice"; together they resemble an "equal" sign ("=") when the flag is displayed vertically, meaning the equality of all people. Also: Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, Illinois's two great waters. The two vertical lines also subtly look like "IL", or "Illinois." The star: The "better angels of our nature" from Lincoln's first inaugural address, and the sacrifices made to realize liberty and justice.

506



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois since March of 2023.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The upper part is Marine Blue (#1E3F5A) to represent Illinois' waterways and the industry and progress stemming from them. The lower part is Lincoln Green (#478778) to represent Illinois' bountiful lands, and the great people like Lincoln who have governed them. Separating the two parts is a wavy line of Prairie Gold (#F5C165) as a nod to the nickname "The Prairie State".

507

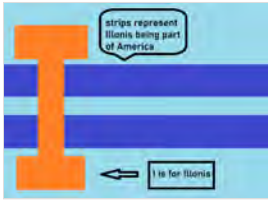


Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 1985 when I was 25 years old. I earned a Master's degree in Fine art from the University of Illinois Chicago campus and have worked as a scenic designer and free-lance artist and teacher since then, as well as raising my two sons here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The railroad is a perfect symbol for Illinois. It references our history of industry and transportation, and can be read as leading into the future. The blue represents both the sky and the waterways, and the gold represents both agriculture and our many accomplishments, in commerce, arts, and so much else. We look toward the future horizon with strength and confidence.



508

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I for Illinois. The colors are unique for our state to stand out. See additional notes on the flag image.

509

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Arkansas in recent years but my love for my birthstate has never diminished! I was born in Rockford, Illinois, the city where my mom was born and died young. My paternal grandfather's family lived in western Illinois (Henderson county) for many generations. I've always been enamored with flags and while I like the current design I've looked forward to the possibility of a redesign and will be buying a copy of the new flag to proudly display in my home!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A copper-colored, 21 pointed shape represents a penny for Lincoln. Orange and Blue are featured because they are iconic state colors, they're in bars that frame the shape to signify the many rivers that give Illinois a recognizable border. The shape has 21 points for the 21st state admitted to the union in 1818, which is why each stripe has 18 dots. A silhouette of the eagle from the seal is included to give the flag the symbol of the nation. I like five stripes but submitted a three bar design.



510

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512

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Tricolor stands for the three populations centers: chicago, suburbs, and the rest of the state which have roughly 1/3 of the population each, The star stands for 1 state and also 1 union which Illinois proudly supported in the civil war.





513

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years I was born and raised here I am in 6th grade and would love to make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I would love to have equality in Illinois no matter the race sex or difference. I reused the original photo because it is the original one and it looks super nice.

514

Relationship to Illinois



I was born, raised and still currently live in the fantastic state of Illinois. As the son of a 4th generation Illinois farmer, the rich soil of this state

practically runs in my veins. It is a blessing to live somewhere that you can witness the strong agricultural foundation of a state at work along with having access to a truly world-class city such as Chicago, along with the hundreds of other vibrant communities and countless beautiful natural areas scattered across the landscape.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is best viewed from bottom to top. The green bar celebrates our agricultural roots & our protected natural areas. The blue bar commemorates the I&M Canal as well as our lakes & waterways. Violet is both the color of our state flower & women's suffrage, led by Jane Addams & Ida B. Wells. The rectangle honors the first skyscraper & symbolizes what we've built. The star, a nod to Wallace Rice, represents the creative spark of our future. The rectangle & star form an "i" for Illinois.



515

Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raised in Illinois. I have lived in Rockford Illinois all of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind the orange that is in the flag represents the fact that Illinois is the nations leading pumpkin producer and that it is also the leading pumpkin processor. I have chosen a cardinal to represent the flag because it is the state's bird. The reason why for the white can be many reasons. The white can symbolize a new beginning with the flag and also the fact that they started a new beginning in 1865 when Illinois was the first state to ratify the 13th amendment abolishing slavery.

516



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state my entire life and have both experienced the rural and city areas.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to create a flag that represents both the industrial and agricultural impacts of the state. Inside the circle represents not only the capital but Chicago as well using the Willis tower and "the bean" as well as using the three stars on Chicago's flag. On the outside represents the agricultural side of IL with the white tailed deer and corn stalks, the flag color is orange representing pumpkins, which IL is the lead producer of. I also included the state saying and founding year.

517



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois, born and raised here. I really don't like the current state flag so I decided to just submit a redesign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The large circle in the center with the yellow around it symbolizes the rising sun. While the green symbolizes the plains and hills that cover the state. Then the blue is the great Mississippi River and all the other rivers that flow through Illinois. Then the lighter blue is simply the sky. Then in the corner we have the name of the state, the dates that are on the current flag, one of course being the year we were made a state, then what we are known for, being the "Land Of Lincoln".

518

Relationship to Illinois

I was born & raised in Central Illinois. My hometown, Havana, has 3,000 people & is a rural community. Havana is a small town, but to me, it & other rural towns throughout the state, have great importance to the identity of Illinois & its history. I have visited cities in the state such as Springfield, Peoria, & Chicago. These are some of many cities that have major stakes in the heritage of Illinois; & with rural pockets of the state, all come together and encompass the Land of Lincoln.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is a simplified geographic layout of Illinois. The blue top left corner is for the Mississippi, blue bottom right corner is for Lake Michigan, & central blue is for the Illinois River. Each star represents a city location, a 6-point star for Chicago, a 16-point star for Springfield (16 points for 16th president Lincoln), & a 5 point star for Kaskaskia (1st capital & oldest town). Yellow & green stripes angled at 21° (21st state in Union) for agriculture & nature of the Prairie State.



519

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520

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here my whole life, it is pretty cool here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made this one time



521

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is living here my whole life and being born in the city of Rockford, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag are the four stars in the front, representing a big role in Illinois being Chicago. The blue Y representing the separation of the Mississippi river. The blue background representing all the rivers flowing through and near Illinois. And the yellow stripes on the sides for all the cornfields spread throughout Illinois.



522

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student currently living in the great state of Illinois, My STEAM teacher had given us an assignment on this topic, and I thought I'd submit a flag design. I go to Mahomet Seymour Junior High School, and I am an 8th grader. I was born in Indiana, But I have spent almost my entire life living in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue shape represents a simplified version of our state on a world map. The blue represents liberty. The orange stripe represents the enthusiasticness and friendliness of our people, and the white stripe represents our innocence and clear morals. The I that sits in the center represents the first letter of Illinois, and is also a usual symbol of our state. the star represents our star on the US flag. The ratio of Big I (the name of my flag) is 10:19, that of the US flag.





523

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the City of Chicago and so Illinois has always been my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I want to showcase our state bird which is the Red cardinal. I love how beautiful this bird is and how it stands out from others just like our state stand out from others.



524

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois, 13 years old.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Abraham Lincoln played a key role in the history of Illinois and the entire nation. Illinois nickname is "The land of Lincoln," so I tied in Lincoln to the flag by putting his face in the state shape which seems to fit near perfect.



525

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois, 13 years old.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Abraham Lincoln played a key role in the history of Illinois and the entire nation. Illinois nickname is "The land of Lincoln," so I tied in Lincoln to the flag by putting his face in the state shape which seems to fit near perfect. Feel free to make any changes big or small!



526

Relationship to Illinois

Window & Stovepipe I've lived in IL most of my life. I was born in Evanston and was a baby in Chicago until we moved to the suburban home I now occupy with my own wife and children. Early in my career, I briefly lived in Springfield and worked in our state government. I am a lawyer licensed in IL, the Land of Lincoln, and I respect Abraham Lincoln as the very best of my profession. I've wanted a quality flag for IL for a long time, so I am excited to participate in the redesign process.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors: white, blue (same blue as Chicago's flag), green (same green as Peoria's flag) Ratio 2:3:1L Map: blue is IL's water: Lake Michigan and the Miss. and IL rivers; green is contrasting landIL Architecture: the home of the skyscraper celebrated in the five panels of a Chicago-style window. 21 vertical blue lines (for the 21st state) form a highlight to the hat and also the Sears/Willis towerLincoln: a stovepipe hat's central location represents Lincoln's life and career in Central Illinois



527

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here my entire life, born and raised in north aurora. I am a soldier in the US army reserves stationed at Arlington heights. I am a collage student currently studying at Wabausee community college in sugar grove. I'm proud to be from Illinois and I want a flag to show that. (Variation 2)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

To start, the Light blue lines at the top and the bottom represent the beautiful midwestern sky and Lake Michigan. next the dark blue represents the many rivers such as the Mississippi river, the Illinois river, the Fox river etc. next the six sided style star represents the culture history and people of Illinois. The Hexagon represents unity and our central role in the Midwest, each side representing Illinois borders with Lake Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

528

Relationship to Illinois



I am a resident and citizen of Illinois. I have lived in the state for almost my entire life including graduating at both an Illinois High School and an Illinois University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Three main sections referencing the idea of three sections of Illinois (Northern, Central, Southern). The top and bottom sections of the flag are a dark green to reflect the prairie state and farm land. The middle section (meant to invoke the Chicago flag) is enclosed by blue lines to represent the Mississippi river and Lake Michigan. The white line represents peace and unity. Three stars to reference three capitals of Illinois with 9 points each adding up to 21 as the 21st state.

529

Relationship to Illinois



Window & Stovepipe 2I've lived in IL most of my life. I was born in Evanston and was a baby in Chicago until we moved to the suburban home I now occupy with my own wife and children. Early in my career, I briefly lived in Springfield and worked in our state government. I am a lawyer licensed in IL, the Land of Lincoln, and I respect Abraham Lincoln as the very best of my profession.I've wanted a quality flag for IL for a long time, so I am excited to participate in the redesign process

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors: black, white, blue (same blue as the US flag)Ratio 2:3IL Map: black is IL's water: Lake Michigan and the Miss. and IL rivers; blue is contrasting landIL Architecture: the home of the skyscraper celebrated in the five panels of a Chicago-style window. 21 vertical black lines (for the 21st state) form a highlight to Lincoln's hat and also the Sears/Willis towerLincoln: a stovepipe hat's central location represents Lincoln's life and career in Central Illinois.

530

Relationship to Illinois



Window & Stovepipe 3I've lived in IL most of my life. I was born in Evanston and was a baby in Chicago until we moved to the suburban home I now occupy with my own wife and children. Early in my career, I briefly lived in Springfield and worked in our state government. I am a lawyer licensed in IL, the Land of Lincoln, and I respect Abraham Lincoln as the very best of my profession.I've wanted a quality flag for IL for a long time, so I am excited to participate in the redesign process.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors: red, white, blue (same red and blue as the US flag)Ratio 2:3IL Map: blue is IL's water: Lake Michigan and the Miss. and IL rivers; red is contrasting landIL Architecture: the home of the skyscraper celebrated in the five panels of a Chicago-style window. 21 vertical blue lines (for the 21st state) form a highlight to Lincoln's hat and also the Sears/Willis towerLincoln: a stovepipe hat's central location represents Lincoln's life and career in Central Illinois.

531

Relationship to Illinois



I have lived in the state my entire life and have both experienced the rural and city areas.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to create a flag that represents both the industrial and agricultural impacts of the state. Inside the circle represents not only the capital but Chicago as well using the Willis tower and "the bean" as well as using the three stars on Chicago's flag. On the outside represents the agricultural side of IL with the white-tailed deer and corn stalks, the flag color is orange representing pumpkins, which IL is the lead producer of. I also included the state saying and founding year.

532

Relationship to Illinois



I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's the best design you're gonna get

533



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and have been living in the state of Illinois all my life. I am a entertainer and I have been performing for events all around the state of Illinois and often I travel the country but there's nothing like coming back home to the great Midwest state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Well i wanted to catch the eye of anyone that sees the flag and for them to know that, That's the state of Illinois flag without thinking about it. So I placed the shape of the state as the main focal point of the flag with the state seal in the center and being that we don't have a state color that I know of I went with a couple of ideas, First I used Blue and white then I went with our national colors Red, White and Blue.

534



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536



Relationship to Illinois

Has friends who are from Illinois. Lives in Ohio

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue star represents the State of Illinois, and its place in the Union. The blue represents lines represents perseverance and the Mississippi River, which forms a "Y" shape at Illinois' southern border. The white background shows off the purity of the state.

537



Relationship to Illinois

My mom and her parents were all born and raised in Illinois and their parents emigrated from Poland and settled in Chicago. Chicago is my home away from home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 4 stars of the Chicago flag hover over the scene to create a sense of unity. The Sun hovers over a body of water, the shore of Lake Michigan, Mississippi River or any of the local lakes. The Illinois text recalls the current flag and is placed over green for the forests and agriculture of Illinois. The tan represents plowed fields or beaches depending on the beholder. The sky color references the Chicago flag and represents the success of Chicago's creative industries. Winter Vibes.



538

Relationship to Illinois

I spent two years living in Chicago has child.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is inspired by colors typical on french regional flags. The stars represent illinois being the 21st state and I used six pointed stars like those used in the flag of Chicago. 1818 the year illinois became a state in the union is inscribed on both ends.



539

Relationship to Illinois

Lived in Chicago for two years has a child.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Variation of a flag I previously submitted but without the inscription "1818". Instead you have two vectors pointing to the center. The stars represent Illinois admission into the Union. Again the colors are inspired by colors seen on french flags. This ties into its exploration by the French. The colors are also patriotic for an American state. Overall the colors convey the ideas of liberty, strength, and prosperity.



540

Relationship to Illinois

Lived in Chicago for two years has a child.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the flags of Paris, United States, and Chicago. This flag features 8 stars to represent key people, and places within the state's history.1. Cahokia 2. French Exploration 3. Jean Baptiste Point du Sable 4. Constitution 5. Abraham Lincoln 6. Jane Addams 7. Interstate Route 66 8. Barack Obama



541

Relationship to Illinois

Resident in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I added the state bird (cardinal) with the addition of the state flower(violet) with a white background.



542

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to IL during the pandemic after deciding to leave IN. I moved here for more opportunities and the culture.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange field represents pumpkins since IL grows 40% of the US's pumpkins. The violet is the state flower.



543

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to IL during the pandemic. I wanted to live in IL for more opportunities and for the culture.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design is taken from a portion of the IL State Seal. It is a sun rising over the water of Lake Michigan. The orange represents the pumpkin patch since IL produces 40% of the US's pumpkins.

544



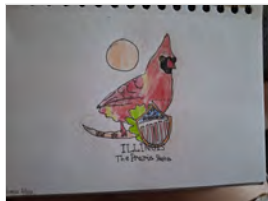
Relationship to Illinois

I moved to IL during the pandemic. I wanted to live in IL for more opportunities and for the culture.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The symbols on the side of the flag represent the indigenous tribes of IL. It was modeled after drawings on a piece of hide attributed to the Illinois Confederacy. The yellow represents the prairie, since IL is the "Prairie State." The cardinal in the middle is the state bird of IL.

545



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag includes the state bird, The Northern Cardinal. It also includes a leaf from the state tree, as well as the shield that resides in the current flag.

On the branch the cardinal sits on, I included the dates '1868' and '1818', as they were also on the current flag. You can make any adjustments or tone it down more. I understand that you might not want to such a detailed design. I would be honored if mine was used as inspiration.

546



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue lines represent five major waterways in Illinois (the Mississippi, Ohio, Wabash, and Illinois rivers, as well as Lake Michigan). The cornstalks represent Illinois' great agricultural heritage. The eagle represents the United States, while the shield, with its 13 stars, is an homage to the original 13 colonies. The state's motto is firmly grasped in the eagle's talons. The state's name and the date of statehood adorn the top and bottom of the flag, respectively.

547



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the State of Illinois -in the suburbs of Chicago, & was raised there. My family also has a house in Galena, which we go to frequently. I have cousins living in Belleville, & others in Peoria -each of whom I have visited multiple times. Now, I am in college, studying at UIUC (I am in Champaign as I write this). I have therefore gotten to thoroughly experience a very broad range of this state, & the beauty which it contains; I only hope my flag encapsulates it. Best, Peter

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On this flag, the green represents Illinois' agriculture. The blue in the upper right corner represents Lake Michigan. The two blue squiggly lines represent the Mississippi River and the Ohio River. The golden six-pointed star represents the major urban/metropolitan areas of Illinois (with populations above 300,000): Chicago, East Saint Louis, Rockford, Peoria, Champaign-Urbana, and Springfield. The combination of each of the points represents the unity of the State of Illinois. Best, Peter

548



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Explain the meaning behind your flag

On this flag, the blue regions represent two major waterways of Illinois - Lake Michigan & the Mississippi River. The green & yellow regions represent Illinois' agriculture - the yellow represents corn and the green, soybeans. The white six-pointed star represents the major urban/metropolitan areas of Illinois (populations > 300,000): Chicago, East Saint Louis, Rockford, Peoria, Champaign-Urbana, & Springfield. The combination of each of the points represents the unity of the State of Illinois.

549

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

On this flag, the blue region represents the major waterways of Illinois, Lake Michigan, & the Mississippi, Ohio & Wabash Rivers. For the stripes - the light blue represents the sky; the yellow, corn; & the green, soybeans. The white six-pointed star represents the major urban/metropolitan areas of Illinois (populations>300,000): Chicago, East Saint Louis, Rockford, Peoria, Champaign-Urbana, & Springfield. The combination of each of the points represents the unity of the State of Illinois.



550

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I love the state seal of Illinois, especially the sunburst and the red ribbon elements. I would like to choose a better message for the eagle of liberty to bring to the future citizens of Illinois. Lincoln used the quote "A house divided against itself cannot stand." to sound an alarm for the future of our country. I think the words "against itself" are important here as our citizens can and should stand against each other's ideas, but not each other.



551

Relationship to Illinois

I dont have a personal relationship with the state. I have visited before. I just love flags and designing. I understand if this is not acceptable.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue is for the waterways, and commerce. The Orange is for agriculture, and industry. The large star is the 21st star for IL admission to the Union, and the smaller 20 stars for the 20 states of the Union at the time IL joined. The blue panel is a stylized railway track reflecting the importance of the railway in the state, as well as representing the Middle and Southern regions of the state.



552

Relationship to Illinois

I dont have a personal relationship with the state. I have visited before. I just love flags and designing. I understand if this is not acceptable.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The main colour is white as a tribute to the field of the current state flag. The blue is for the waterways, and commerce. The Orange is for agriculture, and industry. The large star is the 21st star for IL admission to the Union, and the smaller 20 stars for the 20 states of the Union at the time IL joined. The blue panel is overlaid with a stylized orange railway track reflecting the importance of the railway in the state, as well as representing the Middle and Southern regions of the state.



553

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of IL and US citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MAGA! MAKE ILLINOIS GREAT AGAIN - MIGA!



554



Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Chicago and the State of Illinois for approximately 5 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is a depiction of the official grass of the Prairie State: the big bluestem. When blooming, the big bluestem has a blueish stem, with red-orange flowerheads. The flag represents this with blue and orange stripes. The blue also represents our loyalty to the Union. The two orange branches represent the northern and southern halves of the state. The prairie grass shape simultaneously forms the shape the Chicago municipal device, symbolizing the unity of Illinois's rural and urban areas.

555



Relationship to Illinois

I love Illinois and am a member of the Downers Grove, Illinois community. Tavern style >>> deep dish

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists of the back drop of the iconic Chicago city skyline. At the bottom of the flag sits rows of corn playing homage to the state's presence in the agricultural economy of this country. Additionally to the left sits Abraham Lincoln, the state's greatest political symbol. Additionally, there is the state seal reading off the state constitution preamble, the state bird cardinal with laser eyes and Tim Anderson getting knocked out.

556



Relationship to Illinois

I have friends and family in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The diamond and lines represent the eye of Horus to reference the Little Egypt nickname of Illinois. The eight lines represent the eight letters in the name Illinois. The blue color represents President Lincoln's favorite color. The yellow represents corn to represent corn as the state vegetable. The six-pointed star references the Chicago city flag and represents the five states and one lake Illinois borders. Illinois borders Wisconsin, Lake Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, and Iowa.

558



Relationship to Illinois

I work in the flag industry and am a license plate historian with many ties to Illinois. One of our trusted vendors in flagmaking, FlagSource, is based out of Batavia. I also have many close friends from all over the state, and I have helped a small handful of towns, as well as Peoria County, in designing their municipal flags over the years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a 3x5' ratio (standard size for most homeowners and indoor mounted displays), and featured three white lines on an orange field emblazoned with a pumpkin, which Illinois is the largest domestic producer of. The pumpkin graphic is exactly 24"x24", and sits centered in the 36x36" fly end field. The three white lines on the hoist end are specifically spaced and sized because they are a subtle inclusion of Illinois's abbreviation: "Ill."

559



Relationship to Illinois

I work in the flag industry and am a license plate historian with many ties to Illinois. One of our trusted vendors in flagmaking, FlagSource, is based out of Batavia. I also have many close friends from all over the state, and I have helped a small handful of towns, as well as Peoria County, in designing their municipal flags over the years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a 3x5' ratio (standard size for most homeowners and indoor mounted displays), and featured three white lines on an orange field emblazoned with a pumpkin, which Illinois is the largest domestic producer of. The pumpkin graphic is exactly 24"x24", and sits centered in the 36x36" fly end field. The three white lines on the hoist end are specifically spaced and sized because they are a subtle inclusion of Illinois's abbreviation: "Ill."



560

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago Illinois at Rush University Hospital. I am 9 years old and I live in Chicago, Illinois .My whole family is from Chicago Illinois.I love the Chicago Bulls & White Sox.I live [REDACTED].I love to shop with my mom the local ice cream shops , farmers markets and small businesses. I love to visit the Chicago Children's museum and Peggy Notebaert Museum. I love summertime in Chicago because we get to visit the beach.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind the flag is strength, honor and freedom. My great grandfather Eugen G. fought for this great nation years ago so we could enjoy the most basic freedoms. I love my country and the flag .

561

Relationship to Illinois



I work in the flag industry and am a license plate historian with many ties to Illinois. One of our trusted vendors in flagmaking, FlagSource, is based out of Batavia. I also have many close friends from all over the state, and I have helped a small handful of towns, as well as Peoria County, in designing their municipal flags over the years.

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562

Relationship to Illinois



I'm a lifelong resident of Illinois. I was born and raised in Chrisman, a small town in Edgar County. I currently reside in Mattoon, Coles County. I retired with a military pension in 2006 at the rank of CWS, having served over 36 years of military service, most of which was with the Illinois National Guard. I was a teacher and educational administrator in Illinois Public Schools, primarily Mattoon, for over 34 years. I am currently retired and an artist.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

We are the Land of Lincoln - a slogan recognized throughout the country; a slogan that is so firmly associated with the State of Illinois that the two are inseparable. Lincoln's head belongs on our state flag. The blue Y symbol underlying Lincoln's head give a nod to the great city of Chicago, the 3rd largest city in the U.S. The color blue represents the waterways the form most of our eastern our western boundaries. The 21 gold stars represents that Illinois became the 21st state of the union.

563

Relationship to Illinois



I have lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag contains references to items associated with our state, The cardinal is the state bird. The leaves are from the white oak, our state tree. The field of twenty-one stars represents that we are the twenty-first state. We became a state in 1818. I chose to feature red, white, and blue, as well as stars and stripes, as a nod to our nation's flag.

564

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Illinois 2013 the school that i go to is Wilmette public school and i made this flag in IGS wich stands for global studies

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the four stars in the Chicago flag and the white stars represent the United States flag and the blue background represents peace and love love.



565

Relationship to Illinois

Live, laugh, love Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Possum eating orange slice = Illinois.



566

Relationship to Illinois

Live, laugh, love Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Possum eating orange slice = Illinois.

567

Relationship to Illinois

I have always thought of Illinois to be a really interesting and beautiful state in the USA, I visited Chicago and checked out some other stuff, and it was just awesome. I really love the prairies in the state, the bean in Chicago, and a lot more I wish I could mention here. I loved visiting the places in the state and learning about it more. It was such a great experience.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag I have made represents the state by its history and beauty. It has 4 things: The house of Lincoln, representing where Lincoln lived in Illinois, hence the slogan "The Land of Lincoln". The Star represents unity and statehood, representing Illinois as a state in the USA. The dark blue represents the night sky of the state, representing the beauty up above, it makes me think of the sunset in the Chicago skyline. The green represents the nature of the state such as the prairies and forests



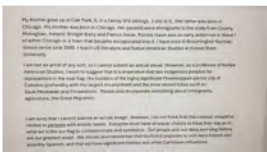
568

Relationship to Illinois

My mother grew up in Oak Park, IL in a family of 6 siblings, 3 still in IL. Her father was born in Chicago. His mother was born in Chicago. Her parents were immigrants to the state from County Monaghan, Ireland: Bridget Barry and Patrick Gavin. Patrick Gavin was an early alderman in Ward 1 of either Chicago or a town that became incorporated into it. I have lived in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois since June 2000. I teach US literature and Native American Studies at Illinois State University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I am not an artist of any sort, so I cannot submit an actual visual. However, as a professor of Native American Studies, I want to suggest that it is imperative that two indigenous peoples be represented in the new flag: the builders of the highly significant Mississippian period city of Cahokia (preferably with the largest mound itself) and the most recent tribes such as Sauk/Meskwaiki and Potawatomi. Please also incorporate something about immigrants, agriculture, the Great Migration.



569



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago and am still a current resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has three colors: green, Chicago sky blue, and goldenrod. The green represents Illinois' prairies and forests, like Shawnee National Forest. The sky blue stripes represent the three major waters surrounding the state: Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and the Ohio River. The goldenrod represents the state's corn, wheat and soy agriculture. The goldenrod shape in the center represents Cahokia Mounds, Illinois' oldest settlement, as well as the rising sun on the original state flag.

570



Relationship to Illinois

I have always thought of Illinois to be a really interesting and beautiful state in the USA, I visited Chicago and checked out some other stuff, and it was just awesome. I really love the prairies in the state, the bean in Chicago, and a lot more I wish I could mention here. I loved visiting the places in the state and learning about it more. It was such a great experience.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag I have made represents the state by its history and beauty. It has 4 things: The house of Lincoln, representing where Lincoln lived in Illinois, hence the slogan "The Land of Lincoln". The Star represents unity and statehood, representing Illinois as a state in the USA. The dark blue represents the night sky of the state, representing the beauty up above, it makes me think of the sunset in the Chicago skyline. The green represents the nature of the state such as the prairies and forests

571



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents Illinois' rich natural and historical heritage. The white deer head with red antlers symbolizes the state's wildlife and strength. The 21 stars form a semicircle, representing Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union, with one red star emphasizing its birth year, 1818. A cardinal was subtly included to honor the state bird that holds the state flower in its beak. The red and white color scheme reflects patriotism and the state's deep history.

572



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents Illinois' rich natural and historical heritage. The white deer head with red antlers symbolizes the state's wildlife and strength. The 21 stars form a semicircle, representing Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union, with one red star emphasizing its birth year, 1818. A cardinal was subtly included to honor the state bird that holds the state flower in its beak. The red and white color scheme reflects patriotism and the state's deep history.

573



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574



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifetime Illinois resident (except for a brief period during college).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue backdrop is the great bodies of water surrounding us (Mississippi R. & L. Michigan) and also matches the blue background of many of our neighbors, tying us to the midwest. The shade of blue is the blue of nuclear radiation, highlighting our role in bringing nuclear power to the world. The yellow foreground is grain, highlighting our important role in feeding the country and the world. The red star in the center is the great city of Chicago as the heart of the midwest.

575



Relationship to Illinois

Full-time resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the waters of Lake Michigan and the rivers of Illinois. The green represents the prairies of Illinois. The profile of Lincoln represents Illinois as the Land of Lincoln.

576



Relationship to Illinois

Parent

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My 10 year old with aspergers is obsessed with flags and hoped on the chance to design this one, He says he took the founding year, the eagle and the sun are from original flag design, and red white n blue represents American flag

577



Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifetime resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green in the bottom third of the flag. #56a562. represents a prairie. Illinois being the prairie state. Above it at 25% the size of the green section, a blue line representing the Illinois river. #22409a. Finally in the top section a 21-pointed star. #ffb700. The 21 points represent Illinois being the 21st state in the United States of America, and the yellowish orange color to represent the sun rising over the large prairie.

578



Relationship to Illinois

I do not have any significant relations to Illinois but as a citizen of the us I enjoy doing things such as this. I hope that the fact that i dont have many relations doesnt prevent this flag from doing well.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the agriculture and plains of Illinois. The grey represents the railroads in Illinois. And the blue represents its border with lake Michigan and its French heritage.

579

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Northern Illinois. Both of my parents were born and raised in Illinois as well. Majority of my family lives in Illinois, my sister was born and died in Illinois, and my grandfather was in the first 10 families that settled in our town of Gages Lake. I now am finishing my Bachelors degree at the University of Illinois and hope to work in the 19th Judicial Circuit Court after graduation.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Using Canva, I wanted to find a way to acknowledge all parts of Illinois, with a city line to represent Chicago, a field to represent our beautiful agriculture, a body of water to recognize the largest inland system of waterways in the U.S. I wanted to incorporate designs from other designs: a center blue band from Wallace Rice's Illinois Centennial Design, a ring of stars from the Illinois Sesquicentennial Design, and to honor our classic Great Seal of the State of Illinois, an eagle soaring.



580

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Logan Square in Chicago since 2014. I've road tripped to nearly every corner of the state except Cairo. Fun fact, I was on the Cook County flag redesign committee.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A modified version of the Union Shield from the current flag. The Shield represents Illinois' fierce Union support in the Civil War. There are 21 stripes to represent Illinois being the 21st state. The 13 6-pointed stars represent a connection to the USA, Great Lakes region and Chicago. (Alt. 12 5-pt stars and 1 center 6-pointed star). The light blue represents Lake Michigan. Visually this one will stand out!



581

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Logan Square in Chicago since 2014, and have road tripped to nearly every part of the state except down to Cairo, but its on my bucket list! Fun fact, I was on the Cook County Flag Redesign Committee.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A modified version of the Union Shield from the current flag. The Shield represents Illinois' fierce Union support in the Civil War. There are 21 stripes to represent Illinois being the 21st state. The 13 6-pointed stars represent a connection to the USA, Great Lakes region and Chicago. (Alt. 12 5-pt stars and 1 center 6-pointed star). The light blue represents Lake Michigan. Visually this one will stand out!



582

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived my entire life in New Lenox in Will County. Currently I am a college student at Lewis University in Romeoville, where I am majoring in international relations. I have always had a interest in vexillology and when I learned that Illinois was accepting flag design submissions, I knew I had to submit my own. I love my state and would be honored to contribute to its history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors of my flag match those of the United States to show the connection between Illinois and the nation. The blue on the left stands for the Mississippi River, while the stripe on the right represents Lake Michigan. The white represents the purity and innocence of the people of Illinois. The red star is a reminder that Illinois is part of a broader union of courageous states.



583

Relationship to Illinois

Hello . My name is Kaler D Deakin . I am a older gen z (26) from upper central Illinois. These are my submissions for a new state flag . A quick backstory. I have grown up my whole life in Illinois I have lived in the southern area by Cairo and Springfield to the great north by Rockford and Chicago, and all that's in between. I have seen her beautiful sunrises and sunsets t her citys that never sleep and the county side where the fields seem like they never end . Thank you for this opportunity

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The first design is very simple as for ease of reproduction and cost . The top of the flag has the Chicago skyline and landmarks in it. As a tribute to the great city of Chicago that is a keystone of Illinois as a whole. Below the skyline turns into a downward facing corn surrounded by wheat and a circle.The circle surrounding the wheat and corn represents unity however . That despite southern Illinois and northern typically having different views we are all united as one state .



584

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Kaler D Deakin . I am a older gen z (26) from upper central Illinois. These are my submissions for a new state flag . A quick backstory. I have grown up my whole life in Illinois I have lived in the southern area by Cairo and Springfield to the great north by Rockford and Chicago, and all that's in between. I have seen her beautiful sunrises and sunsets and her citys that never sleep and the county side where the fields seem like they never end . Thank you for the opportunity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The second design is incorporated many of the same aspects as the first . All the same symbolism and aspects but with all of it within the outline of the state . Witch Chicago skyline being up north and the corncob and wheat symbol covering a majority of central and the south. As they are majority agricultural .And the circle uniting is as a whole .Still showing faith to the state seal and present flag with "national Union" and "State sovrianty" and the dates "1818 " and "1868" thank you .



585

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It shows the state animal.



586

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Chicago since 2020. It is one of my great pleasures to explore around the city and state, and to show off the city and state to any visitors.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow represents the prairies of Illinois as the Prairie State. The green band represents Illinois' natural beauty, with the mound in the middle representing Cahokia Mounds. The blue represents the bodies of water in and bordering the state, as well as the sky, symbolizing Illinois' limitless potential and aspirations. The blue also matches the blue in Chicago's city flag. The two icons in an X formation represent blue stem prairie grass, the state grass, and the hat represents Lincoln.



587

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Naperville, Illinois in 2004 and live in sugar grove today.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Corn Gold represents Illinois commitment to agriculture and the state being a large producer of corn. It also represents the agriculture community in south Illinois.The main red 6 pointed star color represents Love. The points represent Religion, Education, Aesthetics, Justice, Beneficence, and Civic Virtue. Which the state is held together by. The 3 blue strips represent Lake Michigan, Mississippi River, the Illinois river that all built up Illinois with industry and progress, north ill.



588

Relationship to Illinois

I haven't lived in Illinois my entire life, most of it I was moving around the state and out of the USA because of the military. I do now live in Illinois, and the reason I now live here is because almost my entire family lives here, ever since they were small. I have attended schools that my parents have been to when they were teenagers which I never thought I got to do. I have always wanted to settle some place after moving around so much and Illinois Rockford has always felt like home to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The inner circle has buildings in the background symbolizing the beautiful cities in Illinois, like our famous Chicago city. A river runs in between, just like our many long rivers near the cities and towns. Illinois has many farms with large fields and with many corn tanks around the state. the sunsets have always been such a beautiful sight. Illinois is the biggest pumpkin producing state in the United States of America, which is why there are pumpkins. The stars can mean anything like history



589

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Chicago since 2020. My favorite thing to do is to explore around the city and state, and love to show off the city and state to any visitors.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow represents the prairies of IL as the Prairie State. The green band represents ILs' natural beauty, with the mound in the middle representing Cahokia Mounds. The blue represents the bodies of water in and bordering the state, as well as the sky, symbolizing Illinois' limitless potential and aspirations. The blue also matches Chicago's flag. The two icons in an X represent blue stem prairie grass, the state grass, and the antlers represent the white tailed deer, the state animal.



590

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Chicago since 2020. My favorite thing to do in my free time is to explore the city and state. I love to show the city and state off to visitors whenever they come.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue stripes represent the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers defining much of the border of Illinois. The deer is a white-tailed deer, the state animal of Illinois. The two red beams represent the forward gaze of progress and the forward looking spirit of the Prairie State. Finally, the top hat represents arguably Illinois' most famous resident, Abraham Lincoln.



591

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I am a current resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I believe that we have a great flag as it is. However, I believe it is a little bland. I think it needs a different background. I replaced the white background with a light blue.



592

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and currently live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag symbolizes the rich history and natural beauty of Illinois, blending elements that represent both the land and its legacy. It features two colors: blue and wheat. The blue symbolizes the sky and Lake Michigan, while the wheat color represents the vast prairie landscapes of Illinois. The 13 stars honor the Native American Illinois Confederation, paying homage to this important part of Illinois's history.



593



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and currently live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag honors Illinois's diverse heritage by combining key symbols: the Cross of England for early English influence, the Fleur-de-Lis for French settlers, 13 stars representing the American colonies, and three arrows for the Native American tribes of Illinois. The large cross unifies these elements, reflecting the state's rich cultural history.

594



Relationship to Illinois

I have never been anywhere near or lived in Illinois ever, but I would still consider Illinois a great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists of the national colors of Illinois which are red, white, and blue. It also includes 21 stars as Illinois was the 21st state to join the union. Then lastly, a silhouette of a White-tailed Deer which is the national animal of Illinois, then a silhouette of a Violet which is the national flower of Illinois.

595



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and lived there the first 3 years of my life and go back each summer to enjoy the beauty of the state and the family I still have there!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sky blue represents the sky of the state on a beautiful day. The dark blue line represents the rivers and bodies of water in the beautiful state. The yellow bottom represents the agricultural aspect in the southern part of the state and the farmers who work so hard for the state of Illinois. The red star represents the City of Chicago and is in that corner because Chicago is in the right corner on a map. The 1818 because that's when the state was created!

596



Relationship to Illinois

My name is Brady Hammerel, I am 19, and I have lived in the Chicago suburbs all my life. I have moved around a little, going from Yorkville, to Oswego, and then Montgomery. I love this state, and I thought that if there was any state that I'd want to participate in the redesigning of its flag, it would be Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a tricolor with the middle stripe expanding into a diamond shape. The overall shape is made to look like an i when flown vertically. In the diamond are 4 stars which points total 21, which represents Illinois as the 21st state. The central star is the Chicago star. The top stripe represents the Illinois River, and Lake Michigan in the corner. The bottom stripe represents Illinois's agriculture, and corn. The flag is obviously amateur work, so it could definitely be refined.

597



Relationship to Illinois

I was born there and I currently don't live there because i'm at university. I do come back every break I get to see my family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The White stands for peace. The Blue Star stands for Lake Michigan and the Rivers that run through Chicago. The Birds represent the Native Americans that were or are currently in Illinois. The Green stripe stands for the beautiful parks and nature that are found in the state. The Yellow stripe stands for the agriculture found in the southern part of Illinois.



598

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in IL; have lived here for 17 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The corn in the middle represents the state's agricultural sector, the headshot of Abraham Lincoln stands for the state's motto as the Land of Lincoln, and the orange and blue color scheme represents the colors of both the University of Illinois and the Chicago Bears football team, both iconic pieces of Illinois culture



599

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and lived in the South Suburbs of Chicago all my life. I am currently 39 years old and reside in Oak Lawn, Illinois. I am passionate about Illinois and I'm proud to be from this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The main field of green represents our vast fields of farmland and agricultural industry. The vertical blue stripe on the left represents the Mississippi River and the horizontal blue stripe on the bottom represent the Ohio river, the 2 rivers that makes up the border of Illinois to the west and the south. The blue triangle in the upper right corner represents Lake Michigan, The big red star represents Chicago, and the 4 vertical red stars represents Rockford, Aurora, Naperville, and Joliet.



600

Relationship to Illinois

I have friends from rural Illinois who share their experiences with farming and harvesting. Their hardworking families live in isolated areas with lower living standards compared to urban regions. Despite the significant contributions of the working class in these areas to the state's economy, they are often neglected. Therefore, I have proposed a redesign of the flag of Illinois to better reflect the state's diversity by giving more representation to rural working-class communities of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow field represents Illinois' landscape and agriculture because it's nicknamed the Prairie State, the Corn State, and the Garden of the West. The roundel's middle position in the field represents Illinois' central location in the US and its other nickname the Inland Empire State. The blue fringe around the white circle, representing the state's land, symbolizes Illinois' iconic water borders. The red star symbolizes Abraham Lincoln because Illinois is also nicknamed the Land of Lincoln.



601

Relationship to Illinois

Long-time resident/citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

4 colors, with blue on left and bottom sides Blue lines represent the rivers of Illinois, with their positions suggesting the Mississippi, Illinois, and Ohio rivers. The black lines represent the train and Interstate connections radiating from Chicago. The yellow and green blocks represent the prairies, forests, and crops (particularly corn).



602

Relationship to Illinois

████ is 6 (almost 7!) years old, born in 2017. He was born in Rockford, IL and is being raised in Oregon, IL. Flags fascinate him and he enjoyed the opportunity to create one for his own state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The penny in the middle represents the Land of Lincoln. The 1818 on the penny is the year the state was established. The black stripes represent the rows of plants and crops. The red stripes represent the fruit that we grow. The green represents all the land in our state.



603

Relationship to Illinois

Long-time resident/citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

4 colors, with blue on left and bottom sides Blue lines represent the rivers of Illinois, with their positions suggesting the Mississippi, Illinois, and Ohio rivers. The black lines represent the train and Interstate connections radiating from Chicago. The yellow and green blocks represent the prairies, forests, and crops (particularly corn).



604

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois, grew up in Grayslake and currently have a house in Gurnee. I work as a scientist now at Abbott, but I have done seasonal work at the Lake County Forest Preserve and Grayslake Public Works. As one of the most populous and important states, the Illinois flag should have an unique and iconic design that can be considered on the same tier as other peer states, like California and Texas.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by Rice's Illinois Centennial Flag. 20 white stars are in a wing-like pattern, symbolizing freedom and the eagle from the current state flag. In the center, a large 21st star symbolizes Illinois which was the 21st state. Also, Lincoln was 21 years old when he moved to Illinois, beginning his mark on history. The stars are within a center blue stripe symbolizing Union and Justice (which Lincoln preserved). The flag's field is white, an iconic element carried over from the current flag.



605

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois, grew up in Grayslake and currently have a house in Gurnee. I work as a scientist now at Abbott, but I have done seasonal work at the Lake County Forest Preserve and Grayslake Public Works. As one of the most populous and important states, the Illinois flag should have a unique and iconic design that is considered on the same tier as other peer states, like California and Texas.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by Schanbacher's eagle and shield painting in the Illinois capitol rotunda. 20 blue stars are in a wing-like pattern, symbolizing freedom and the eagle from the current state flag. In the center, a large 21st star symbolizes Illinois which was the 21st state. Also, Lincoln was 21 years old when he moved to Illinois, beginning his mark on history. The center star is within a vertical blue stripe symbolizing justice. The flag's field is white, an iconic element from the current flag.



606

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It seems to be an accurate representation of the current political belief structure in the state and the amount of freedoms that have been poached from the citizens of our state.

607

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Bloomington, Illinois where I still live. I have a rich family history in this state going back to my great great grandmother and her family living and working in Ashley, Illinois and neighboring towns. My grandma were born and raised in Ashley. My grandpa lived closer to Bloomington in Elkhart where he was instrumental in the town's rebirth with renovating and owning his own business. He was married into the Gillette family who has a big legacy in the state and Abe Lincoln

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Green represents prairies. The blue represents the sky and Lake Michigan. The wavy dark blue line resembles the Illinois river. And the 21-pointed sun/star represents Illinois being the 21st state.

608

Relationship to Illinois



I AM A 78 YEAR CITIZEN OF STATEAN I LIVE IN CHICAGO

Explain the meaning behind your flag

IT SHOWS WHY WE LOVE ILLINOIS AND CHICAGO !!!!!

609

Relationship to Illinois



Born and raised in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Silhouette of Abraham Lincoln with a semi-circle of stars and a red star that represents Illinois as the 21st state (1818). The outline along Lincoln's profile is the Mississippi River color that runs along our state.

610

Relationship to Illinois



Born and raised in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Silhouette of Abraham Lincoln with a semi-circle of stars and the 21st being a six-pointed red star with the year 1818. The thick line along his profile is the color of the Mississippi River that runs along our state. In addition, 16 stripes inside the silhouette of Lincoln.

611

Relationship to Illinois



Lives in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lincoln's hat on a field of yellow wheat. Ideally drawn better than this. the Chicago flag in the corner

612

Relationship to Illinois



Lives in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lincoln's hat on a field of yellow wheat. Ideally drawn better than this.

613



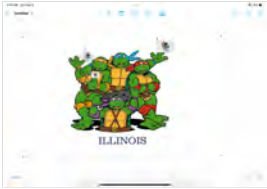
Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois (Edgewater, Chicago) and consider it my true home. I moved away for college, but am planning on moving back with my boyfriend when he finishes school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the beauty of the waters of our state (e.g. Lake Michigan, the Mississippi, Illinois, and Ohio Rivers) and their significant role as routes for the flow of people, commerce, and ideas. The yellow represents the agriculture sector and corn and soybean fields that are found all across Illinois. The black represents the historical importance of coal as an energy source for Illinois as well as the goal of a zero-carbon future.

614



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is the home to all reptiles big and small

616



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Naperville, IL, attended Illinois State University for undergraduate and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for graduate.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange symbolizes the harvest and the great variety of crops grown in Illinois (corn, pumpkins, soybeans, etc.). The blue symbolizes the Mississippi and Illinois rivers that lead to the "discovery" of the land. The twelve arrows symbolize the twelve indigenous tribes that made up the Illinois Confederation and together they make the shape of the capital letter I.

617



Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and have lived in small towns and Chicago. I recently moved back to the great city of Chicago after being away for many years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red, white and blue are, of course, taken from our national flag. 1818 is for the year Illinois became a state and the twenty-one stars stand for Illinois being the 21st state.

618



Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is through my mother, in which she was originally from the Chicago area and transitioned to West Michigan. I have traveled many times through Illinois representing the crossroads going either North, South, East and/or West. I have seen so much outside of the cities, as there is much fertile growth in Illinois being almost 80% farmland more or less.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue/Red = "State Sovereignty, National Union." Blue/vigilance, perseverance, and justice. Red/valor and bravery. White/purity and innocence.

Black/determination, defeat of enemies and power. 8 stars = 8 bordering states/bodies of water. Wisconsin: North, Lake Michigan: Northeast, Indiana: East, Kentucky: Southeast, Missouri: West, Iowa: Northwest, Mississippi River: Western border, with Iowa/Missouri and Ohio River: Southern border with Kentucky/Missouri. The 21st state was admitted in 1818.

619

Relationship to Illinois



My son, who designed this flag, has had an interest in flags for many years. He has always thought that the Illinois flag was very boring and knew for years that it needed to be changed. When he saw that Illinois was having a competition to select the new flag he researched on his own what makes Illinois so unique and what flag could tell the perfect story. With so many stories to tell and wanting to maintain flag standards he felt that the Prairie State as told from a child's view would be best

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tri-color is laid out like you are looking out upon the Prairie State from your car or your home. Golden fields of corn and prairie grass to represent agriculture Blue represents the sky White pays homage to the old flag Black stripes represent transportation hub; rail network terminus; start of Rt 66 21 stars for the 21st state; 10 on each side, gold North Star in middle Violet for the state flower, selected by schoolchildren and the first state to select it as its state flower

620

Relationship to Illinois



Born and raised in Illinois, grew up in Grayslake and currently have a house in Gurnee. I work as a scientist now at Abbott, but I have done seasonal work at the Lake County Forest Preserve and Grayslake Public Works. My wife and I just gave birth to our first child (new Illinois resident) this spring!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is anchored to the pole by a left blue stripe which symbolizes the Mississippi river, which anchors Illinois to the West. A center green stripe symbolizes the rich agricultural lands and rural communities of "The Prairie State", which makes up 75% of the state's landmass. A central white 6-pointed star represents the urban centers of Illinois, and relates to the largest city in the state, Chicago. Finally, a right blue stripe represents the boundless waters of Lake Michigan to the East.

621



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

my flag is a colorful interpretation of how I view our state of Illinois as a nation. The eagle in the middle is supposed to represent the United States of America and the freedom we have, with the fish in its mouth representing all of the hardships we've conquered. The Chicago flag and Chicago skyline in the background, though complex, ties the flag together with what our state is known for. Both with historical aspects catered to all generations and more colorful, modern pieces for the newones

622



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state of Illinois almost my entire life. I grew up in the Quad Cities and currently live in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This proposed flag for Illinois highlights the state's agricultural roots and geographical features while nodding to its largest city, Chicago. The green field represents the cornfields, the yellow stripe symbolizes ripe crops, and the blue sky signifies Illinois' open skies. The state blue outline represents the Mississippi River along the state's western border. In the top right, a stylized bean and wind motif symbolizes Chicago, referencing the iconic Cloud Gate sculpture and the city's "Win

623

Relationship to Illinois



I grew up in Evanston (Go Wildcats!) and have lived in Glenview since 1997. I have traveled to 47 states and 7 countries and would never consider living anywhere else. Illinois has diversity, culture, and changing seasons. But most of all it's where my people are.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design represents the state of Illinois from above. Green and Gold - Represent parks, nature, and the vast areas of Illinois dedicated to agriculture. Cream color - Taken from a photo of a Chicago museum, represents culture. It also wraps around the whole state. Blue - In the shape the shore of Lake Michigan, but also represents all rivers and lakes of Illinois. Dark Gray - Represents our cities and the rich history of business and industry in Illinois.

624



Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud Illinoisan. I have lived here for a little over 68 years and have no intention of going anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois has beautiful waterways connecting all of us, bringing nature to our doors, enabling industries to thrive and transporting goods near and far. I was able to show our vast system by selecting the major tributaries that run from one end of our state to the other. This flag is for every person in Illinois. Background Photo by Milton Rivera of Pingree Grove, IL. Shot at the Fox River-Fabian Forest Preserve, Geneva IL. Art and Design by Lisa Goesling.

625



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in central Illinois my entire life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue represents Chicago and it's flag, the dark blue represents Springfield and it's flag, the White Oak leaves represent our state tree, and the Kingfisher is used both as a way to represent the University of Illinois and as the bird is very special to Illinois as a whole.

626



Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud son of Illinois. I was born and raised in Chicago and now live in Edwardsville. I also spent time in Charleston while attending Eastern Illinois. My ancestors immigrated to the state starting 4 generations back. I also have family in the Rockford and Jacksonville areas. I love my home state and am excited to have an improved flag to unite behind.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors (DeerHide, HarvestOrange, & RiverBlue) and star are influenced by paintings created by the indigenous Illinois people (see broken diamond motif maintained by IL State Museum). The eight points resemble a compass rose, which is a nod to Illinoisans' contributions from all corners of the state. 8 Points: Education, Ag, Nature, Transportation, Labor, Athletics, Commerce, & Rec. One star represents 1 unified Illinois. 4 Lines: Miss, Ohio, Ill, & Chicago Rivers. Blue field is Lake Mich.

627



Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud Illinoisan. I have lived here for a little over 68 years and have no intention of going anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to create a flag that speaks to our generous spirit of embracing diversity. Illinois has 455 species of Birds, every one of them beautiful in their own way. You can say the same thing about how culturally diverse we are as a people. Placing the Cardinal on the word ILLINOIS is a nod to our State Bird, each bird is native to Illinois.

628



Relationship to Illinois

My family and I were all born in Illinois. Most of my family lives in the state. Illinois is core to my identity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The center band is colored blue to symbolize the rivers and lakes of Illinois. The white and blue disks upon the center band symbolize the unity between urban and rural Illinois. The 21, 5-pointed red stars surrounding the blue disk symbolize the history of Illinois as the 21st state.

629



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a eleven year resident of Marion, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bands represent the two bands of water that form the boundary of our state: the Mississippi/Ohio Rivers and Lake Michigan. The gold represents the fall colors of the hills and bluffs. The white is a nod to the old flag and a reminder that for all our talk of upstate, downstate, city, and rural we are one state together. Finally, the six points of the stars reflect the five states and one lake that form our borders.

630



Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and lived here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to take our national tree the white oak also with the skyline of Chicago with a blue background and white edges

631



Relationship to Illinois

While I don't have a particularly strong relationship with IL, I have been to quite a few trade shows and conventions, and I've always admired its ability to host diverse collections of people across the country, and even world.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design is inspired by the Illinois river winding its way up to Chicago (the star). IL started as a hub for trade via rivers, and now as a symbol for all IL people looking forward ("all roads lead to Rome" sentiment). Blues represent justice and perseverance, like in the US flag, reflecting Lincoln's ambition against slavery. Yellow is taken from the rising sun on the current IL flag. White is homage to the current IL flag's stark white background.

632



Relationship to Illinois

While I don't have a particularly strong relationship with IL, I have been to quite a few trade shows and conventions, and I've always admired its ability to host diverse collections of people across the country, and even world.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design is inspired by the Illinois river winding its way up to Chicago (the star). IL started as a hub for trade via rivers, and now as a symbol for all IL people looking forward ("all roads lead to Rome" sentiment). Blues represent justice and perseverance, like in the US flag, reflecting Lincoln's ambition against slavery. Yellow is taken from the rising sun on the current IL flag. Orange has become IL's unofficial color, and makes its debut to stand out against other state flags.

633



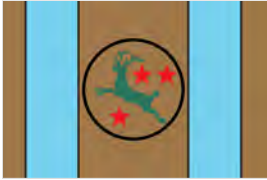
Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in northern Illinois my whole life. I love this state and feel very proud to live here. It has a rich history, diverse peoples, and unique features that are treasures to behold.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is a jewel of a state that has something for everyone. With this design I hope to capture the state's history, prominent features, and culture. The design resembles a gem when viewed right side up, which emulates the beauty and strength of our state. Vertically, a simplified map appears that highlights state terrain, subregions, and culture. Upside down tells our story with a Cahokian mound, encasing New France inspired gold symbols, and Old Glory Blue for ongoing loyalty to the Union.

634



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL in 2013 and have lived here my whole life and can't imagine living elsewhere. I have studied flag design in my Integrated Global Studies course at Highcrest Middle School in Wilmette IL. I love IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The brown background of my flag shows all the fields with brown crops. The blue stripes represent lake MI (left) and the rivers (right). The circle shows all the nice people together in IL. The white tailed deer shows our state animal (white tailed deer). It's green because of the prairie in IL. On one side of the deer there are two stars and on the other side there is one. That is 2-1 or 21 and we were the 21st state in the country. They are red to represent the challenges the state has faced.

635



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Batavia, Illinois having lived within this great state up until recently. My partner and I are planning on moving back within the next year however, as we both have our families in the state, and Illinois has a special place in our hearts. Illinois has provided me with a great education, an amazing culture, and appreciation of history, both for our country and our state. I hope to be able to convey this pride through the design I provide.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag shows various representations of Illinois. In the middle, we have the Violet, Illinois' state flower. Around the Violet, we have 20 stars, and 1 big one below the violet, representing Illinois as the 21st state being allowed into the Union. I chose to put one star below the Violet to represent Illinois as a whole, as the 21st state. The stars are orange within the blue to represent our sports teams, the Chicago Bears and the U of I Illini. The yellow backdrop represents prairie grass.

636



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background represents the open skies over Illinois native prairies, the flower in the center is the state flower, the Common Blue Violet, and the 20 small stars around the flower represent the 20 states before Illinois to join the Union, and the big star represents the 21st state, Illinois.

637



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois (in La Grange) and have lived here for most of my life. I currently live in Oak Forest, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe acknowledges the Illinois River uniting the Great Lakes and Mississippi watersheds. The red six-pointed star is an instantly recognizable symbol of Chicagoland in all its diversity. The state is famed as the Land of Lincoln, whose associations with Springfield, the Illinois River valley, and the I&M Canal are particularly salient. The stylized "pyramid" of Monk's Mound at WHS Cahokia nods to our Indigenous and prehistoric heritage, the Mississippi River basin, and Metro East.

638

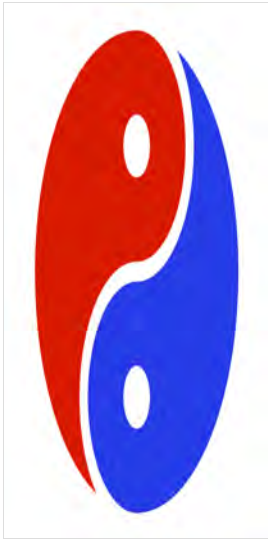


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639

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. Go Cubs Go!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The State of Illinois contains a literal dichotomy of people and ideologies that have cohabitated for over 200 years. The yin-yang symbol depicts that dichotomy. Each half contains a part of the other half, which depicts the demographics of the state, and the elongated symbol depicts the state's very long geography.



640

Relationship to Illinois

In the 1800's, my family were train conductors based in Galesburg area. My grandfather was a physician in rural Illinois (Knoxville). I practice architecture and interiors in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue symbolizes water, the orange/gold symbolizes the land and sun. The space between symbolizes a blank canvas for everyone in Illinois to paint their own past, present and future.



641

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised since 1962! 5th Generation Chicagoan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Since Illinois does not have actual state colors, I chose red, white and blue to remain in line with our country's flag. I wanted our state name and year established to be front and center. And included 21 stars to represent the 21st state in the Union. Lastly, any flag from the Land of Lincoln needs Honest Abe!



642

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL and have lived here my whole life. I was raised in IL, I met my wife in IL, and I'm raising my 2 beautiful children in IL. I've always thought the IL flag could use a refresh, and I'm proud to make my contribution as a citizen of our great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Central Red Star- Heart of the US
White Circle- Community- "O" for Obama, our first African American President
Red L-Base: Agriculture, prairies, our citizens-
Column: Progress, Skyscraper rising into the sky
Blue L-Top: Sky, hope-
Column: Lake Michigan, Mississippi River
2 Ls and an O- "Land Of Lincoln"
Colors- Multiple colors to represent diversity- Red White and Blue to represent America



643

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, born here and have lived no where else all my life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

this bold, simple and elegant design uses minimalism to convey a sense of hope and optimism for the future surrounded by a sea of bold determination

644



Relationship to Illinois

I am a long-time resident of Illinois. I've lived in Peoria, Chicago, and Bloomington-Normal. All of my immediate and extended family still lives in the central Illinois area.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Called "the 4 Waters" this flag represents the geographical features of the state that have build Illinois. The blue top and bottom stripes as well as the red of the star represent Illinois's contribution to the Union, and the 6 pointed star represents the cities of Illinois, specifically Chicago. The 4 blue stripes represent major waterways of the state: Lake Michigan, Illinois River, Wabash/Ohio River and the Mississippi. The lower green strip represents our rich agriculture.

645



Relationship to Illinois

I was a long-time resident of Peoria, Chicago and Bloomington-Normal. My entire immediate and extended families are residents of central Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents community, history and equality. The white stripes represent community convergency towards union (represented by the pure white star). The colored rings around the center are from a medicine wheel or sacred hoop, an indigenous symbol of the Plains tribes that is used for protection, peace, spiritual guidance, and healing.

646



Relationship to Illinois

I am a life-long resident of the state of Illinois, and am very proud of this fact. I have lived temporarily in Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin at various points in my life, but have always returned to Illinois as its politics and the environment of the state have always seemed a good fit.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are five colors in my flag design, all of which signify important aspects of Illinois: yellow represents the sunshine we enjoy here, blue signifies the skies overhead, brown signifies Illinois' rich earth, and green signifies Illinois' bounteous agriculture. The red heart in the middle represents the state's love for all people and a desire to work together in peace.

647



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here since I was very little.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the corn because we produce a lot of it, the red and teal will help represent the Chicagoland area.

648



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years I was born and raised here I am in 6th grade and would love to make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I would love to have equality in Illinois no matter the race sex or difference. I reused the original photo because it is the original one and it looks super nice.

649

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and have lived here all my life, including several years working in Springfield. I love this state and have worked in (and organized) communities in Chicago and downstate, and I have seen the pressing need for a symbol that can bind our state together and inspire confidence in our communities and institutions. My hope is that adopting a new flag will be a part of strengthening out civic life and emphasizing everything we have in common.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two blue stripes on the lower half, inverted from the 1918 Rice Centennial flag, for the Mississippi and Lake Michigan, the waters that define Illinois. A gold stripe splitting the water, representing the prairie and farmland between. Both colors matching the lake and sunrise on the existing state seal. Then, a dominant white stripe visually continuing the unique white field of the current flag, holding twenty circled stars from the bicentennial flag, but with Illinois' 21st gold star central.



650

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in La Grange, Illinois, and have lived in the state for most of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe symbolizes the Illinois River uniting the Great Lakes and Mississippi watersheds. The red six-pointed star evokes Chicagoland in all its diversity and dynamism. The state is famed as the Land of Lincoln, whose associations with Springfield, the Illinois River valley, and the I&M Canal are particularly salient. The stylized "pyramid" of Monk's Mound at WHS Cahokia references our Indigenous and prehistoric heritage, the Mississippi River basin, and Metro East.



651

Relationship to Illinois

Hello, my name is David Ibragimov. I am 22 and a student at Winthrop University, where I study Political Science. I live in South Carolina. Although I have no direct relationship with Illinois, I love flags, and one of my hobbies is Vexillology. In a time when many states like Mississippi, Utah, and Minnesota are changing their flags to represent their people better, I am very happy to see that Illinois feels that it is time for a change as well!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Black diagonal line represents Illinois being the 1st state to ratify the 13th amendment and is also a nod to President Lincoln and his legacy of abolishing slavery. The 4 white stars represent the peoples who have historically shaped Illinois to what it is today; Native Americans, French settlers, British territories, and finally, the 21st State in the Union. The 4 blue lines represent the major rivers that shaped the State of Illinois; The Mississippi, Ohio, Illinois, and Wabash rivers.



652

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident pretty much my whole life. I have moved out of state a few times but have always came back!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think bringing in the state symbols gives a little more explanation of what our state is about! Being black and white will give the commission an opportunity to change colors around if needed, but it's also simple.



653

Relationship to Illinois



I was born and lived all my life in Illinois. Our family's roots in Illinois go back several generations. Here is where I started my family. I graduated from Loyola University Chicago. Our grandparents took us on travels through Illinois for apple picking, fishing, and to museums, historical sites, and county fairs. I grew up proud that one of our nation's greatest leaders hailed from our state. My family and I are not state employees. I made this flag using a native iOS app on my iPhone.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois as its best known monikers: the Prairie State and the Land of Lincoln. The field's flat swathe of green symbolizes a prairie beneath an open blue sky. The flag features the outline of the state of Illinois in white with the image of Abraham Lincoln woven through it. This rendering is familiar from welcome signs at our borders. The flag's focal point is nearer to the hoist. It signifies Lincoln looking onward, sensing the weight of the work ahead of him.

654



Relationship to Illinois

current resident of Illinois, for 35 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag unmistakably conveys to all exactly which state it's for. It's simple, easy to remember, and pleasing to look at. The use of the color black for Lincoln's profile immediately attracts the viewer's attention. The other colors are open to the viewer's interpretation but are meant to represent some of the natural elements of Illinois. This is the first of three similar designs I am entering; the other two have alternative backgrounds behind the Illinois image and Lincoln's profile.

655



Relationship to Illinois

current resident of Illinois, for 35 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag unmistakably conveys to all exactly which state it's for. It's simple, easy to remember, and pleasing to look at. The use of the color black for Lincoln's profile immediately attracts the viewer's attention. The other colors are open to the viewer's interpretation but are meant to represent some of the natural elements of Illinois. This is the second of three similar designs I am entering; the other two have alternative backgrounds behind the Illinois image and Lincoln's profile.

656



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 22-year-old college student who has always been fascinated with flags. I am excited that Illinois will potentially change its flag to something that better represents its people, and although I am not an Illinoian, I would be honored to be part of this great and historical process!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 stars represent the 3 stewards of Illinois, those being the French, the British, and Finally, the United States. The Black sideways top hat is a subtle symbol for Abraham Lincoln and is Black to represent Illinois being the 1st State to ratify the 13th Amendment. The blue middle line represents the 4 major rivers of the State, those being the Mississippi, Ohio, Illinois, and Wabash rivers. The 2 white lines celebrate Illinois' 2 centuries of being part of the American Union.

657



Relationship to Illinois

current resident of Illinois, for 35 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag unmistakably conveys to all exactly which state it's for. It's simple, easy to remember, and pleasing to look at. The use of the color black for Lincoln's profile immediately attracts the viewer's attention. The other colors are open to the viewer's interpretation but are meant to represent some of the natural elements of Illinois. This is the third of three similar designs I am entering; the other two have alternative backgrounds behind the Illinois image and Lincoln's profile.



658

Relationship to Illinois

Born in DuPage to a family from Brighton Park (Cook), working on Northside as a licensed health and life insurance agent with Aflac.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

1818 is on the quarter and IL is the 21st state. It may be of note that 18 and 21 are numbers people like, and seeing the state name in a different way forces one to view the name and its meaning in the same way we view the Holy Name. No other flag is more revolutionary in tradition, and normal in motivation.



659

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Urbana, I've lived nearly all of my life in Illinois. I currently teach in Charleston where I live with my wife and daughter.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by Wallace Rice's Centennial Flag, this proposal uses three vertical bands to represent the history, contemporary life, and the shared possibility of Illinois. The design includes 102 white stars, representing each of the counties making up the state. These stars and central white band form a unique and instantly recognizable "I" for Illinois. The flag uses 'glacier white' and 'bluestem blue' to invoke the glaciers and the prairies they formed to give the Prairie State its nickname.



660

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Illinois Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists of a white field, with a blue field on the outside edge, green field on the inside edge, and a red 3 pointed star in the center. Both Blue and Green fields are at 21 deg. for the 21st state, and represent the land and water of Illinois. The white field connects the flag to the current Illinois and Chicago flags, with the 3 pointed star representing stability, and the Illinois central role in this country's rise, and uniqueness.



661

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here for the past 15 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Chicago Bears



662

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have been a life-long resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White background references our current flag / Blue band is our waterways first linking Lake Michigan to the Mississippi via Erie Canal / Red star represents Chicago industry and the hub that links our state and the nation together / Gold bands represent agricultural rows of past, present, and future: top is the band of Native American tribes, middle our railways linking east to west, bottom our agricultural importance and progress forward.



663

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois. I currently reside in Quincy IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two red stars represent the courage of the Illinois people. The two thinner horizontal green stripes, represent the agriculture and fertility of Illinois. The bigger yellow horizontal stripe represents the crops and prosperity of Illinois. And the light blue, sort of squiggly line represents the rivers in Illinois, namely Mississippi and Illinois.

664



Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifetime Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The violet represents the state flower - the Common Blue Violet. The green represents the lush greenery seen throughout Illinois (many farms and forests). The navy blue symbol in the middle consists of: -A rough outline of the iconic John Hancock Center representing the birth of the skyscraper in IL.-A farm windmill representing Illinois' leading role in agriculture in the US. It has 18 blades to commemorate Illinois admission to the union in 1818. They combine to form the letter "I."

665

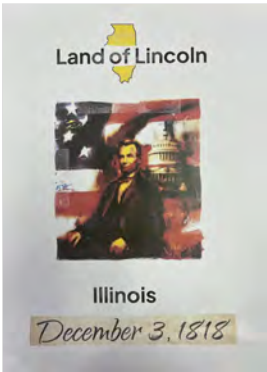


Relationship to Illinois

idk this was for a homework assignment

Explain the meaning behind your flag

idk



666

Relationship to Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag



667



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in South Eastern Illinois in rural Richland County in the unincorporated village of Wakefield. I went to college at Eastern Illinois University, and am currently employed by the Illinois Department of Corrections. I have always felt a sense of pride in Illinois as both a social, and economic leader in the Midwest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Design is representative of the history and the geographic features that have shaped our state. The green bar at the bottom of the flag is representative of the hills, and forest in Southern IL. The gold/yellow central bar is representative of the golden corn and grain that is harvested in the central plains of IL. Top bar is Navy Blue to represent the water ways that facilitated trade throughout IL. The white fleur de lis represents the French roots of the state.



668

Relationship to Illinois

Home state, born in and lived there for most of my life (12 years, I am 17 currently) did move from the state in 2020, but may come back some day.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

3 colors of the National Flag, state eagle holding the banner that says "STATE SOVEREIGNTY NATIONAL UNION" meant to represent both the state and the country, by use of the state eagle from the seal, and the national colors, 1818 for the year when Illinois was admitted into the Union. The colors are similar to that of the French 2nd Republic, and Illinois was French. As an add-on if my flag is selected, the eagle and banner should probably be drawn by a professional, I'm just a high schooler.



669

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. After a brief time living in another state, my career brought me back home, where I met my wife.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to design a flag with simplicity in mind, representing the Midwestern values that Illinoisans hold dear. In the canton of the flag, we have 21 stars, signifying Illinois as the 21st state. The stars are arranged the same way as they were when the Flag of the United States had 21 stars. A cardinal, the state bird, stands in the center, looking to the horizon. A white stripe and red bar make the right edge of the flag, which will provide added distinction when the wind is not blowing.



670

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud resident of Illinois. It is the state I call home. It was where I was educated, where I met the love of my life, and where I am raising my beautiful family. There is no other way to show my love for my home state than to put forth my entry for the flag redesign contest!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

IL is proudly the Land of Lincoln I decided to make the silhouette of America's greatest president the focal point of the flag. I believe that his virtues such as honesty, perseverance, courage, intellect, vision, and responsibility live in each and every Illinoisan-The silhouette is encircled by 21 stars, symbolizing Illinois as the 21st state to join the union.-Colors: White: Purity/Deep Blue: Lake Michigan's tranquility-State Motto and Dates of Statehood/1st Seal Use are also noted



671

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

my flag is a colorful interpretation of how I view our state of Illinois as a nation. The eagle in the middle is supposed to represent the United States of America and the freedom we have, with the fish in its mouth representing all of the hardships we've conquered. The Chicago flag and Chicago skyline in the background, though complex, ties the flag together with what our state is known for. Both with historical aspects catered to all generations and more colorful, modern pieces for the new ones



672

Relationship to Illinois

resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the soybean in the middle represent that the most grown and exported crop in Illinois is the soybean.



673

Relationship to Illinois

Designer: Matthew D. WhitsonI was born and raised in Illinois. After serving 6 years in the USMC, I immediately returned to Illinois. I have been an Illinois state worker for over 30 years. I am currently a volunteer docent at the National Park Service Abraham Lincoln Home National Historic Site since 2016. Illustrator: Jasmine Leung Former NPS Park Ranger at the National Park Service Abraham Lincoln Home National Historic Site.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Illinois Land of Lincoln FlagWhite: Illinois' Rich History. Gold: Illinois' Prosperous Future. (Mr. Abraham Lincoln looking toward the future).



674

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Illinois Prairie State Flag. White: Illinois History. Gold: Prosperity. Green: Prairie State. Star: Illinois is one of the stars in the American Flag. 21 Points On The Star: Illinois is the 21st state to join the Union.



675

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Urbana and have lived in Champaign my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a white background, a nod to the color of the historic flag of Illinois. The six-pointed star represents the great city of Chicago. The blue band represents the Illinois river, traveling from the southwest to the northeast of our state. The green stripes represent the rows of corn and soybeans that blanket downstate Illinois. They are sixteen in number, a nod to the 16th president of the United States (and great Illinoisan) Abraham Lincoln.

676



Relationship to Illinois

Born and Raised in the Chicago Suburbs

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Same design as submission 120, with slight coloration change. Top Quarter is Lake Michigan. Bottom Quarter is Mississippi. Hidden I with the middle blue swerve is Illinois, Chicago Rivers, and I & M Canal. Left if forest/prairie and right is agriculture with mix between yellow and orange to incorporate U of I colors into the flag and mute the yellow. Original yellow was Golden rod (#E7B84C), second is a mix between Goldenrod and Illini Orange (#FF5F05) resulting in dark orange (#F2902C).

677



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois native and have been a resident virtually all my life. I was born and brought up in Bloomington-Normal and currently live in Champaign. The state holds a deep value in my heart as the place that raised me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bar represents the Mississippi river to the west. The stripes draw on the original seal, which featured a red-white chevron shield. The stripes embody the state's trajectory upwards, offering a unique and American representation of progress through peace (white) and struggle (red). The design also nods to the British and French flags, the former empires of the region. The compass star represents immigrants from the four corners of the world, making Illinois what it is today.

678



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois native and have been a resident virtually all my life. I was born and brought up in Bloomington-Normal and currently live in Champaign. The state holds a deep value in my heart as the place that raised me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bar represents the Mississippi river to the west. The stripes draw on the original seal, which featured a red-white chevron shield. The stripes embody the state's trajectory upwards, offering a unique and American representation of progress through peace (white) and struggle (red). The design also nods to the British and French flags, the former empires of the region. The compass star represents immigrants from the four corners of the world, making Illinois what it is today.

680



Relationship to Illinois

I am from Illinois and it is an assignment for my AP Human Geography class to create an Illinois flag design.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The big Lincoln silhouette in the background of my flag is used to represent that Illinois is the land of Lincoln and is there to appreciate him as a person. The corn emblem to to represent the agricultural aspect of Illinois. The colors of Orange and Blue are there to represent the University of Illinois and the blue is also there to represent the water of Lake Michigan and appreciate how useful it is for trade and transportation.



681

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Shows our number one production in soybeans.



682

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. In addition, my family has a long history with Monmouth College in Monmouth, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background colors were picked from images of fluorite, the state mineral. There are 21 stars since IL was the 21st state to join the union. Finally, the ear of corn in the center represents both the state grain and state vegetable.



683

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. In addition, my family has a long history with Monmouth College in Monmouth, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background colors were picked from images of fluorite, the state mineral. There are 21 stars since IL was the 21st state to join the union. Finally, the ear of corn in the center represents both the state grain and state vegetable.



684

Relationship to Illinois

I'm interested in vexillology and, therefore, thought this would be a unique opportunity

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe is an allusion to the Illinois river as well as the old centennial flag of Illinois. The 6-pointed star in the upper left is the same as that on the Chicago flag, the state's largest city, and represents the beauty of the state's skyline.



685

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Crown Point, Indiana, but the spirit of Chicago captured my heart and soul at a very young age. I attended Barat College in Lake Forest, Illinois and when I graduated in 2000, I immediately found residence in Chicago's Rogers Park. The Midwest is in my DNA, but the uniquely progressive community in Illinois proved indispensable for my creative growth. For 28 years now, I have been fortunate to contribute my artistic voice to the culture of my state, in my beloved home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag of our state's largest city is renowned and given its diverse citizenry are also Illinoisans, it seems appropriate to consider its design in the new three-color state flag. The stripe of red represents our state's conservative Midwestern core, running through a field of blue progressive values. Stripes of white, the union of all colors, bind the two in illumination. The star of Chicago centered, composed of all three and symbolic of a functioning unity of belief, resolute and dynamic.

686



Relationship to Illinois

I'm interested in vexillology and, therefore, thought this would be a unique opportunity

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe is an allusion to the Illinois river as well as the old centennial flag of Illinois. The 6-pointed star in the upper left is the same as that on the Chicago flag, the state's largest city, and represents the beauty of the state's skyscape. This version of the flag, the swallow-tail, represents the star pattern in the centennial flag as well.

687



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689



Relationship to Illinois

I'm interested in vexillology and, therefore, thought this would be a unique opportunity

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe is an allusion to the Illinois river or a landscape as well as the old centennial flag of Illinois. The yellow represents corn, which Illinois is very fond of. The 6-pointed star in the upper left is the same as that on the Chicago flag, the state's largest city, and represents the beauty of the state's skyscape.

690



Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Existing flag is good



691

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. In addition, my family has a long history with Monmouth College in Monmouth, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background colors were picked from images of fluorite, the state mineral. There are 21 stars since IL was the 21st state to join the union. Finally, the ear of corn in the center represents both the state grain and state vegetable.



692

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is where I was born and raised. It's where I went to college, where I met the love of my life, where we got married, where we bought our first house, and where we're now raising our 2 beautiful children. I love my state, and I'm a proud Illinois citizen. That being said, I've always felt the Illinois state flag could use a refresh, and I'm glad to be able to make my contribution. I hope it does our great state proud.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Central Red 6-Point Star-Represents IL as the Heart of the US- Home of Chicago
White Circle- Community- "O" for Obama, IL Senator and first African American President
Red L-Base: Agriculture, prairies, our citizens-Column: Progress, Skyscraper rising into the sky
Blue L-Top: Sky, hope-Column: Lake Michigan, Mississippi River
2 Ls and an O- "Land Of Lincoln"
Colors- Red, White, and Blue representing America- Multiple colors to represent diversity



693

Relationship to Illinois

I am a United States citizen and I have lived my entire life in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

About half of Illinoisians live in Chicago and about another half or so live in rural Illinois. I added the stars for Chicago as part of their flag. The blue stripe shows that both of us in the country and city live under a blue sky. The bottom green stripe shows the agriculture in rural Illinois.



694

Relationship to Illinois

I am a United States citizen and I have lived my entire life in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

About half of Illinoisians live in Chicago and about another half or so live in rural Illinois. I added the stars for Chicago as part of their flag. The blue stripe shows that both of us in the country and city live under a blue sky. The bottom green stripe shows the agriculture in rural Illinois.



695

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is that I think that Illinois is a good state in the US and that I think they should get a new flag. I like Chicago because of "The bean" that is made of metal which is in Chicago and I'd like to make a new flag for Illinois because I want to see some more culture for the flag for and the US to see. So those are my relationships with Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

-grey because of the beautiful moon we always see on the night sky- dark green because of the crops- cyan because of justice of Illinois and the USA- red represents the stars of the most popular city in Illinois, Chicago- purple and Magenta it represents the state's flower which is the Violet which is those colors- I put the Seal on the flag because it represents how Illinois is and looks and the old flag inspires this- indigo for the night sky with stars we always see at night and it's beautiful

696



Relationship to Illinois

I've been to South Illinois. Music from Chicago also make up a big part of my life, I'd like to repay that with a less hideous flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three stars represent the original three congressional districts, as well as the three stars on Chicago's flag. The blue on top represents Lake Michigan being primarily North of the state. White is the sky, constantly filled with white clouds. The red represents the hard work that the people put into the brick architecture scattered all around the state.

697



Relationship to Illinois

Affiliated by way of my mother being from the Chicago area and relocated to the Western side of Michigan. I, myself have traveled throughout the State of Illinois many times going either West, North, East or South traveling.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

8 stars = 8 bordering states/bodies of water, Wisconsin: North, Lake Michigan: Northeast, Indiana: East, Kentucky: Southeast, Missouri: West, Iowa: Northwest, Mississippi River: Western border with Iowa/Missouri and Ohio River: Southern border with Kentucky/Missouri. The (4) section lines are North, South, East and West. The Blue/Red = "State Sovereignty, National Union." White symbolizes purity and innocence. Black symbolizes determination, defeat of enemies and power. Illinois 1818 statehood.

698



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I was born and raised in Rockford and attended Northern Illinois College in DeKalb. Currently still living in Rockford.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted a design more simple and recognizable that also shared the colors of the US Flag. The 21 stars symbolize Illinois being the 21st state.

699



Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Chicago from December 2019 to June 2021. I do not want my name or current location publicized. Thank you.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green = forest, grassland and natural resources of Illinois. The white oak = Also highlights the State's natural resources, and acknowledges the Illinois's indigenous roots. Gold = Prosperity (from industry, business, agriculture etc) and Enlightenment (through education, civics, etc); Blue= the Lakes and waterways that shaped Illinois; also for labor and human rights. This tricolor is simple & traditional with enough unique elements to become easily recognized as a symbol for Illinois.

700



Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Chicago from December 2019 to June 2021. I do not want my name or current location publicized. Thank you.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I already submitted a design I came up with previously. But I want to use one of my remaining two allowed submissions to point out that the Centennial Flag is already a good flag design with enough (innocuous) history to become an appropriate State Flag of Illinois. Please consider it as well.



701

Relationship to Illinois

██████ is an 8 year old male who was born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

██████ says his flag stands for the democracy of IL and how our ancestors made this state great by using our natural resources. He has included 21 stars to represent IL being the 21st state, shields to represent our natural resources, the capitol building, and the Willis Tower/Millennium Park.



702

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois resident and American citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue represents the same sky everyone in Illinois lives under. Green represents agriculture. The stars represent Chicago.



703

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years I was born and raised here I am in 6th grade and would love to make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I would love to have equality in Illinois no matter the race sex or difference. I reused the original photo because it is the original one and it looks super nice.



704

Relationship to Illinois

i have lived in Illinois all of my life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the green represents the the plains, and the dyed river during St. Patricks Day, the blue represents the river, the original lake in the flag, and the night sky, the symbol in the middle represents the sunset in the original flag and the eagle on the original Flag.



705

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

██████ says his flag stands for the democracy of IL and how our ancestors made this state great by using our natural resources. He has included 21 stars to represent IL being the 21st state, shields to represent our natural resources, the capitol building, and the Willis Tower/Millennium Park.

706



Relationship to Illinois

I'm born and raised in Illinois and have spent my life here - I've travelled throughout the state and love every corner.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white background is from the current flag / The golden rows of corn represent our agriculture and the importance it plays in our state (past present future lines for native Americans, rail linking the nation east to west, future importance of agriculture / The blue band represent the waterways that link us from the great lakes to the Mississippi river / The red star represents Chicago and the role it plays as the economic, industrial, and transportation hub for the state and the nation.

707



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years I was born and raised here I am in 6th grade and would love to make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I would love to have equality in Illinois no matter the race sex or difference. I reused the original photo because it is the original one and it looks super nice.

708



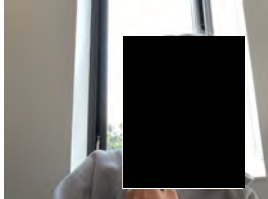
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709



Relationship to Illinois

I LOVE USA

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Slayyy

710



Relationship to Illinois

I am resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Just a simple flag with blue background and word Illinois in square caligraphy style.

711



Relationship to Illinois

██████ - I have lived in Peoria my whole life and have been deeply invested in the design of the Illinois Flag for the last three years. I finished my flag design in June 2021 and have been proud of it ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

██████ - This flag represents Illinoisan history and state unity while remaining simple and aesthetically pleasing to view from near or far away. The twenty white stars on the flag take inspiration from Wallace Rice's Centennial design from 1918. The ten stars on the top and the ten stars on the bottom represent the amount of US States before Illinois' inception as the 21st state in the US. The star in the middle represents Illinois and the red color gives the flag a red, white and blue look.

712

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Springfield, attended both the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Bradley University, and now have resided in Peoria for the last 13 years. My extended family all have deep ties to Illinois, with one of my paternal ancestors having fought in the Revolutionary War and buried in Saline County. My connections to Illinois have given me unique perspectives on our state's rich history and what makes it so special.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A white 'I' is formed in the center symbolizing state sovereignty against the deep blue of national union. Two arrows symbolize our state's focus on the future while honoring our rich history. The light blue represents our waterways across the state while the red symbolizes our courage to preserve freedoms. Three 7-pointed stars represent Illinois being the 21st state while the stars' position within the 'I' acknowledge the three distinct regions of our state - northern, central, and southern.



713

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years I was born and raised here I am in 6th grade and would love to make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I would love to have equality in Illinois no matter the race sex or difference. I reused the original photo because it is the original one and it looks super nice.



714

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Springfield, attended both the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Bradley University, and now have resided in Peoria for the last 13 years. My extended family all have deep ties to Illinois, with one of my paternal ancestors having fought in the Revolutionary War and buried in Saline County. My connections to Illinois have given me unique perspectives on our state's rich history and what makes it so special.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A white abstract Illinois is at the center and showcases our state's distinct shape. The deep blue represents the importance of waterways across the state, including the Mississippi River. The red symbolizes our state's courage to preserve freedoms - from the Civil War and Abraham Lincoln to present day. Three 7-pointed stars represent Illinois being the 21st state while their position within the outline acknowledge the three distinct regions of our state - northern, central, and southern.



715

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years I was born and raised here I am in 6th grade and would love to make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

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716

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag points to our state's nickname of "The Prairie State", with the gold prairie grass being a central focus. The five stems of prairie grass represent the five main Native American tribes that formed the Illinois Confederation - a nod to our rich Native American history. Three 7-pointed stars represent Illinois being the 21st state as well as serving as hubs of transportation, manufacturing, and agriculture. The light blue circle outline symbolizes the importance of our state's waterways.



717

Relationship to Illinois



I've lived in Illinois all my life. I became casually interested in vexillology a few years ago, and have since drawn up a number of flags for myself. I created my first, crude, redesign of the Illinois flag about four years ago, and that design partly inspired the design I'm submitting now. Also, here's some info about the flag that wouldn't fit in the other box. Dimensions: 3x5Colors (RGB): Blue (0, 37, 102) Yellow (245, 188, 57)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

3 bands with 3 stars on the middle band. The stars represent 3 important years in Illinois history; 1818: The year Illinois became a state, 1918: The Illinois Centennial, and 2018: The Illinois Bicentennial. There are 21 points on the stars representing Illinois as the 21st state. The blue represents the water that made Illinois a national hub of trade and transport. The yellow represents agriculture and the prairie. If the flag is turned vertical the middle band looks the uppercase letter "I".

718

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since I was born.

Explain the meaning behind your flag



The flag represents the variety of land and people in Illinois. Illinois has one of the biggest cities in the country, but it is also made up of a lot of farmland, and everyone is still united as Illinoisans in the land of Lincoln, which we must never forget.

719

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois. I have resided in Quincy, Illinois for 9 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag



The red star represents the metro areas of Illinois. The wavy blue line represents the rivers. The yellow represents the crops and prosperity. The green represents the agriculture.

720

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Geneva, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag



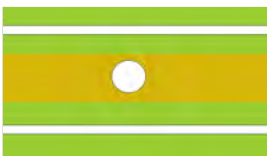
It's just a silhouette of Lincoln's head; he was pretty important to Illinois.

721

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Geneva Illinois so that is my relationship.

Explain the meaning behind your flag



It can't be all fancy with a lot of words it has to be 2 to 3 colors and not a detailed design.

722



Relationship to Illinois

I have never been to Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun iconography is taken from the current state seal, but adapted to have 21 beams to represent Illinois as the 21st state admitted into the union. The golden sun and the golden stripes represent the energy of life. The green branches are also taken from the state seal and together with the green stripes represent nature. Please note that I do not own a phone and I couldn't select my home state. Please accept this submission regardless because I want to support you!

723



Relationship to Illinois

Lived here all of my life -in many of the suburbs of Chicago, La Grange, Brookfield, Bartlett, and now live in Peoria Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to convey the farm land of the south and west with the beauty of the city of Chicago and the rivers of Illinois

724



Relationship to Illinois

I may not be an Illinois native, but a 2017 trip to Illinois was my first time traveling east of the Rockies, and it changed my life. It was my first real experience traveling somewhere so unfamiliar from what I knew back home in Utah, and I will never forget the impression it left on me. Also, I recently memorized every county in the United States, and I can confidently say that Illinois was my very favorite state to pursue -- I kept coming back to its 102 interesting and memorable counties!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is a refinement to Wallace Rice's 1918 Centennial Flag. The 21 stars symbolize Illinois as the 21st state to join the USA. Blue represents loyalty, white represents purity; together these colors hearken back to Illinois' devotion to the Union during the Civil War. The central star for Illinois is now centered, to indicate the state's geographic significance as an anchor of the Midwest. The surrounding stars have been arranged in two identical rows, representing balance and moderation.

725



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years I was born and raised here I am in 6th grade and would love to make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I would love to have equality in Illinois no matter the race sex or difference. I reused the original photo because it is the original one and it looks super nice.

726



Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois. I have resided in Quincy Illinois for 9 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white bigger space represents the peace that Illinois seeks. The Yellow line shows the crops and prosperity of Illinois. The green line shows the agriculture and fertility of Illinois. The blue squiggly line represents the rivers of Illinois. Namely the Illinois and Mississippi. And the red star represents metro areas. Like Chicago, Peoria, and my hometown of Quincy. If this flag is altered slightly that is ok. I want it to look the most perfect it can be. I would be proud if my design won.

727



Relationship to Illinois

My parent are owners here and I am a student to an owner and I have been living in Illinois now for about 5 year now and this opportunity is really special to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is about the Illinois history about its culture and a building that represent the Illinois history and culture.

728



Relationship to Illinois

My parent are owners here and I am a student to an owner and I have been living in Illinois now for about 5 year now and this opportunity is really special to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is about the Illinois history about its culture and a building that represent the Illinois history and culture.

729



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used a pumpkin since our state is popular for pumpkins.

730



Relationship to Illinois

lifelong resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

gold background. I'm old school, I like the state seal. I just saw this version of it outlined by state map outline. My version anyway.

731



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Cook County Illinois for my whole life. I enjoy many things in Wilmette, Illinois which is where I live. I love going to swim in Lake Michigan. My dad loves to go fishing so I have been to many natural water forms in Illinois. I love history so I have learned lots of Illinois history and have learned a lot of history in my integrated global study's at Highcrest middle school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the water that goes all along the right side of Illinois. The yellow displays the prairies and Illinois rich farming history. The green portrays the many natural resources and forms. It also symbolizes the rich history of freedom in Illinois.

732



Relationship to Illinois

██████ is an 8 year old male who was born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

██████ says his flag stands for the democracy of IL and how our ancestors made this state great by using our natural resources. He has included 21 stars to represent IL being the 21st state, shields to represent our natural resources, the capitol building, and the Willis Tower/Millennium Park.

733



Relationship to Illinois

I've been a resident of Chicago, IL since 2010. I moved to Illinois from Michigan for more career opportunities in design and creative.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

21 Corn kernels -Representing Illinois as the 21st state
Corn -Representing the prairie soil / strong agriculture
Blue Waves -Representing the Illinois River and system of lakes and canals
Torches -Representing the land of hope, opportunity, and a beacon of light that welcomes all people of all diversities.
Symmetrical shape of all elements -Representing the balance between state rights and national unity.

734



Relationship to Illinois

Although I am originally from the east coast, I have been proud to call Illinois my home since 1992---more than half of my life!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Yellow-brown is for our prairies. At the heart of this flag are red, white, and blue, a reference to our county's flag. But also: red for valor and the blood of Illinoisans who have fought defending our home. White for purity--and for our legendary Winters. Blue is for Lake Michigan, as well as the Mississippi River. Dark grey is for both the coal industry and our railroads. The font is in Clarendon, an homage to our current flag. And the profile at the right of course, for The Land of Lincoln.

735



Relationship to Illinois

Although I am originally from the east coast, I have been proud to call Illinois my home since 1992---more than half of my life!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Yellow-brown is for our prairies. At the heart of this flag are red, white, and blue, a reference to our county's flag. But also: red for valor and the blood of Illinoisans who have fought defending our home. White for purity--and for our legendary Winters. Blue is for Lake Michigan, as well as the Mississippi River. Dark grey is for both the coal industry and our railroads. The font is in Clarendon, an homage to our current flag. And the profile at the right of course, for The Land of Lincoln.

736



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the colors of Illinois (blue and orange) and it has crops because Illinois has a lot of crops in the state.

737



Relationship to Illinois

Although I am originally from the east coast, I have been proud to call Illinois my home since 1992 --more than half my life!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Yellow-brown is for our prairies. At the heart of this flag are red, white, and blue, a reference to our country's flag. But also: red for valor and the blood of Illinoisans who have fought defending our home. White for purity--and for our legendary Winters! Blue is for Lake Michigan, as well as the Mississippi River. Dark grey is for both the coal industry, and our railroads. The font is Clarendon, an homage to our current flag. And the profile at the right of course, for The Land of Lincoln.

738

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 2018; my wife and I currently live in Chicago with our daughter. We have fallen in love with the state, its beauty, and the wonderful people, and consider this to be our permanent home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag includes...- A minimalist version of the sun, water, and shoreline from the current state flag- Two blue stripes bookending the central icon, representing the Mississippi River (left) and Lake Michigan (right)- Colors include white (original state flag), light blue (matching Chicago's flag), yellow and green (both to reflect the state's emphasis on agriculture)- The total number of shapes used in the center is 21, representing Illinois' status as the 21st state



739

Relationship to Illinois

I 'm a resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are blue, yellow leaves stripes and white colours in flags with blade eagle standing in rock and there is a america shield with blue,white stripes and there is a green colour leaves



740

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and went to a state school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Orange-> Sun, Fields, Determination. Navy Blue -> Rivers, Lake Michigan, Unity. White-> Sovereignty, Clarity. Stars -> 3 five point stars is for the 3 historic capitals of Illinois. The 6 pointed star is for state unity. Ribbon pattern - The ribbons have 21 points representing Illinois being the 21st state in the Union. The pointed ribbons make the flag distinctive and recognizable vs other flags. The California Republic flag inspired the words Illinois Territory-> words on flags can be ok



741

Relationship to Illinois

Lived here all my life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Self explanatory



742

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I was born here also. I think this flag would look great for Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has some of the best things in Illinois. It shows things that we also grow and create



743

Relationship to Illinois

Lived here all my life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Self explanatory



744



Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois for my whole life. It may be simply put, but I believe the strongest connections are often the simplest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue represents the two great waterways of the state, Lake Michigan and the Illinois river. This shade of blue also harkens back to Old Glory Blue on the American flag, emphasizing the state's history as a part of the Union. The 20 white, five-pointed stars represent the 20 prior states to be admitted to the Union, with the 21st, orange-red star representing Illinois itself. This star is also six-pointed in reference to the state's largest city, Chicago.

745



Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois my whole life. I've grown up here and the culture here has had a vast influence on my life. I don't expect to move out of Illinois for quite a while since I do very much enjoy life here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to incorporate a little taste of rural Illinois in my flag since that doesn't get much representation. All that's talked about pertaining Illinois is Chicago and Abraham. I incorporated sweet corn, as we grow sweet corn in rural Illinois, and the state flower, a Violet since I find wild flowers here the most beautiful. I also incorporated the shield that is on the original Illinois state flag. The two striped colors I feel matched Illinois the best.

746



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in IL. (REDACTED). Living in Chicago currently. Film/TV actor and SAG-AFTRA Board member (Screen Actors Guild). You can find further details in my IMDb bio with pics and images by googling my name or going directly to the IMDb website. Thank you.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag is designed with Blue, Red, and Gold on a White flag. There are 21 stars representing Illinois position as the 21st state to join the Union.

747



Relationship to Illinois

As someone who deeply appreciates American history, I wanted to propose this flag to honor the state's incredible contributions to our nation. Illinois has played a pivotal role in shaping the United States, from being the 21st state to join the Union to being the home of Abraham Lincoln and a driving force in the Civil War and the Industrial Revolution. My love for American history naturally drew me to Illinois' story, and this flag is my way of paying tribute to that.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag prominently features three navy blue seven-pointed stars, symbolizing Illinois' status as the 21st state in the Union. The stars are positioned between three vertical red stripes that resemble the letter "I," subtly referencing the state's three that make up its name. Lastly, the flag's color palette is a deep red, navy blue, and white from the colors found in the original U.S. shield, reflecting Illinois' old flag with US symbolism.

748



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749



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750



Relationship to Illinois

Lifetime resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue border of the flag represents the water borders of Illinois: the top blue represents Lake Michigan, the left blue represents the Mississippi River, the bottom represents the Ohio River, and the right represents the Wabash River. The green stripe represents both the meadow-filled, forested area of northern Illinois, as well as the money made by Illinois's workforce and economy. The yellow stripe at the bottom represents corn, and Illinoisan agriculture as a whole.

751



Relationship to Illinois

Life long resident. Father worked for Chicago Park District, grandfather work for the State and my uncle worked for the Chicago Park District.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Eagle for liberty, blue field for Lake Michigan, corn for the crop of the land and a Chicago star for its part in the state history,

752



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my entire life. I met my wife while attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and we are raising our children here. My great grandparents were first-generation Czech- and Irish-Americans in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is, in my opinion, among the most naturally-advantaged places on earth. Our flat, fertile land was built by glaciers and prairies. Our state is bordered by two of the world's most important bodies of freshwater. Chicago is among the most beautiful cities on earth. This iconic flag, clearly a relative to the City of Chicago flag, celebrates the land, water and city that make Illinois great.

753



Relationship to Illinois

Citizen, born and raised.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe on the left represents the Mississippi River, Illinois' western border. The field of green speckled with corn is representative of our agricultural industry and it's main crop. The three towers in the top right corner represent the industrialized northeast corner of the state. The blue at the top right corner represents Lake Michigan.

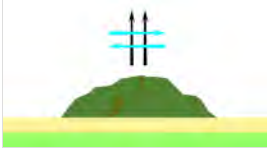
754

Relationship to Illinois

While like many famous and not so famous Illinoisans, I'm not originally from the state, I've lived here for almost a decade and am proud to have made it my permanent home. I have traveled widely around the prairie state from Rockford to East St. Louis to Carbondale, experiencing big cities, small towns, and rural farms and natural areas.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This depicts Monks Mound at Cahokia, the largest earthworks in the Americas built by a thriving native culture who started the building of the greatest cities of the world here in Illinois. Rising from the prairie and prime agricultural soil (represented by the yellow and green stripes) Inspired by the Peoria Tribal seal, black arrows represent the rail and the great migration that brought new Illinoisans here and blue arrows represent the crossroad of the Great Lakes and Mississippi waterways.



755

Relationship to Illinois

lived my whole life sadly

Explain the meaning behind your flag

shows us what a true flag looks like



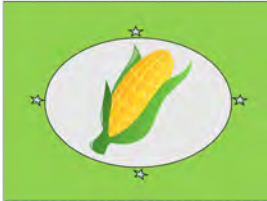
756

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of 14 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Corn is the base of our agriculture and is the center of the flag. 4 stars represented the 4 regions of Illinois.



757

Relationship to Illinois

RESIDENT

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MY SON DESIGNED THE FLAG. HE IS 7 YEARS OLD. HIS NAME IS [REDACTED] AND VERY PASSIONATE ABOUT FLAGS.HE RELATED THE YELLOW BACKGROUND STANDS FOR THE CORN FIELDS WE HAVE IN IL.THE WHITE BACKGROUNDS STANDS FOR OUR JUSTICE SYSTEMTHE RED BACKGROUND STANDS FOR RED CARDINALSIMAGE OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN SINCE IS IL IS KNOWN AS LAND OF LINCOLN"DECEMBER 3RD, 1818"- WHEN IL BECAME 21ST STATEMORE CORNS BELOW LINCOLN IMAGE BECAUSE ACCORDING TO IL MAP REVIEW, CORN FIELDS COVER AROUND 29.7% OF THE STATE



758

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Illinois and still live there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is showing Chicago the city and also using the colors of University of Illinois and the bears to represent the state.



759

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Northern Illinois. I've lived here all my life and I've continued living here even throughout my higher education.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design is centered on a simplified shape of the Thunderbird, an important spiritual symbol of the Illiniwek nation (our namesake). It is in front of a 12-pointed sun, a nod to the 12 Illiniwek tribes. These also symbolize the agriculture-friendly weather of the state. The blue stripes are for our waterways, much like on Chicago's flag. The central green, yellow, and orange stripes intend to paint a picture of a sunset on a prairie, my favorite part of living here. Yellow is also for grain.



760

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Northern Illinois all my life, and I was born here as well. I have continued to live here through my higher education as well.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a simpler version of my other design. It is centered on a simplified shape of the Thunderbird, an important spiritual symbol of the Illiniwek nation (our namesake). It is in front of a 12-pointed sun, a nod to the 12 Illiniwek tribes. These also symbolize the agriculture-friendly weather of the state. The green borders around the central symbol are indicative of our significant agricultural contributions. These, the brown stripe, and the white background pay homage to the current flag.



761

Relationship to Illinois

I live and love Illinios

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue and white because they remind me of lake Michigan and flowers because they remind me of Illinios in spring.



762

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

21 stars for 21st state to join America and pumpkin because we produce the most pumpkins in America



763

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my entire life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors are reminiscent of the colors of University of Illinois Chicago, and it shows the Chicago skyline, as Chicago is an incredibly important city in Illinois. The corn icon represents the massive impact and importance of corn in Illinois.





764

Relationship to Illinois

I was born within the state and have not switched residency since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The focal point, corn, is to represent the main agricultural within our state. The blue colors within the back represent our states firm belief on our democracy and rights, as shown within our vast election systems.



765

Relationship to Illinois

I am citizen.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of my flag design is about the White-Tailed Deer which is native to Illinois!



766

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Geneva Illinois and have lived here for 14 years. My parents have lived in Illinois for 19 years and we love the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents how everyone is connected. The angles on the star represent arms and how they are all connected. This is an important meaning because it means everyone is connected in life together and will never be alone.



767

Relationship to Illinois

This is the state that I have lived in for, at least, 2 years of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Colors are based off of Illinois itself, orange represents our state sport team colors. The eagle, which is often symbolized for American beliefs, stand for the beliefs shared by Illinois and its country. The soybeans represent our agriculture as part of the great plain states, and soybeans are our #1 farmed crop.



768

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived In Illinois my entire life and it is my favorite place in the entire world.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has the state colors navy blue / blue and orange. The tree in the middle shows how we have many farmlands and most of the state has farmers and farmland. And the circle is to show that our state revolves around the farmers and the farmland.



769

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois has always been one characterized by wonder. With the diversity of the state, from its beautiful nature, to one of the famous cities on the planet, Chicago, it is one of the top US states when it comes to attractiveness.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag pays tribute to the Illinois Confederation, the original inhabitants and name-givers of the area we now know as Illinois. The tribes which lived on these lands for thousands of years, decorated hides with geometric motifs which directly inspired the design of this flag. Out of all the US state flags, only the flag of New Mexico features native American elements, Illinois could become the second. The white background of the current flag is kept to symbolize a shared future.



770

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

21 stars for 21st state to join America and pumpkin because we produce the most pumpkins in America



771

Relationship to Illinois

resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the sky line of chicago



772

Relationship to Illinois

I am a highschool student from Geneva IL, I have lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background represents our sports through out Illinois, such as the cubs and bears. The orange stripe represents how we are the pumpkin state.



773

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and am submitting a flag for school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 2 blue stripes on the outside represent the famous blue color of Illinois and the University of Illinois. The pumpkin represents the large amount of pumpkins that Illinois produces.



774

Relationship to Illinois

Lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

We are first in pumpkin production.



775

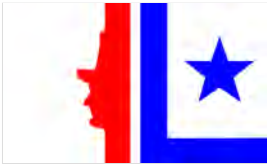
Relationship to Illinois

██████

Explain the meaning behind your flag

██████ - New Illinois state flag design.

776



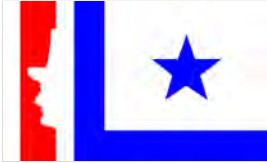
Relationship to Illinois

I have long had friends from the state. I have visited only on a few occasions but always felt a sense of pride within its borders. There's a lot of history in the state. I remember seeing the western end of the old National Road when I went through Collinsville and Edwardsville years ago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The idea keeps it simple. Vertical bands form the initial letters both in the solid colors and in the white space. A single star for statehood, the national colors of red, white, and blue, and Lincoln's profile round out the design.

777



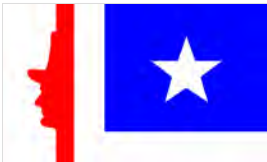
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778



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779



Relationship to Illinois

I live in the state, and have lived here for my whole life. My parents have also lived in the chicagoland area for most/all of theirs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features 18 total stars, to represent the year illinois the state was established in, 1818. And 3 colors, those being navy blue, orange, and black. Similar to the university of Illinois logo.

780



Relationship to Illinois

i live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

its a pumpkin and the bears colors

781



Relationship to Illinois

I live and go to school here. I go to Geneva Illinois and have lived here for a pretty long time.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents the bald eagle. The bald eagle is important in America. It represents freedom, strength, and pride in our country.

782



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Chicago, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The "waves" on the bottom signify represent the more rural parts of the state; the lakes that IL has (blue waves) and the rolling hills & farmland (white/grey waves). The star represents the more urban areas of the state (i.e. Chicagoland), and the bird is the IL state bird (cardinal).

783



Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud citizen of Illinois and currently work in the public sector where I get to meet, work with, and serve my fellow Illinoisans across the state.

The current flag is good but it's never a wrong time to solicit creative ideas to evoke some pride in our state and our people. I hope that this process, no matter the outcome, works as a reminder that more unites us than divides us.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Our flag needs to be instantly recognizable as Illinois without needing to spell out "Illinois". For me that's a visual of The Grid. It is so baked into the form of both urban and rural Illinois, our day to day life, our cities, towns, and neighborhood blocks, that I think for us Illinoisans, when you see it, you know you're home.

784



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Updated eagle from current flag. Illinois is the "Land of Lincoln" and the Capital dome.

785



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Updated eagle from current flag. Illinois is the "Land of Lincoln" and the Capital dome.

786



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I was born in Chicago in 1953. I am a Cubs and Northwestern Wildcats fan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The blue stripe represents the rivers and lakes of Illinois. The green stripe represents the crops and forests of Illinois. The eagle feather honors the Native Americans who were originally in Illinois. The skyscraper honors Illinois' rich architectural legacy. Abraham Lincoln is for the "land of Lincoln" whose adult character was formed in Illinois.

787



Relationship to Illinois

Former Resident of 18 Years. Visit frequently.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Updated version of my submission #338, this new version has details for the deer. White tailed deer, standing defiant, white for purity of midwestern people and snow. 21 point star for 21st state. Orange for Chicago fire showing resilience of the people. Blue for Lake Michigan and important rivers. Crop kernels pattern for corn and soy. Stars for Springfield and Chicago in their actual red colors.

788



Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and currently reside in Illinois. Studied Illinois history at Eastern Illinois University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Based on the US flag. Five blue stripes. Four to represent Illinois' water borders; Lake Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers. A fifth blue stripe to represent interior waters and canals. Two white stripes to represent Illinois' industry and manufacture history. Two green stripes to represent Illinois agriculture history and natural beauty. The union of the flag has a single 21 point star. To represent Illinois as the 21st state and our State's bright future in the 21st century.

789



Relationship to Illinois

Born, raised, educated, and settled here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Cardinal for the state bird. Fields of blue for the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers and Lake Michigan. Six stripes for the six main indigenous tribes - Illiniwek, Sauk, Mesquakie, Potawatomi, Kickapoo, and Winnebago. Two light blue stripes from the Chicago flag. Orange, yellow, and green for our main crops - Pumpkin, Corn, and Soy. Three larger white stripes that meet in the middle represents the transportation/travel hub that Illinois is for the rest of the country - Rail, Auto, Flight.

790



Relationship to Illinois

Born, raised, educated, and settled here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Bald eagle for our growing bald eagle population. It rises signifying a great state future. It has 21 feathers as Illinois is the 21st state. A FLW Tree of Life-inspired design along the flagstaff with 6 points for the six native tribes. Green trapezoid for the Cahokia mounds in so. Ill, combined with the yellow evokes an ear of corn, a main crop. Fields of blue represent the rivers and lake. Three tailfeathers signify our transport hubs - rail, auto, flight and/or prez Lincoln, Grant, Obama.

791



Relationship to Illinois

I moved here from Ukraine

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Its the big city of Chicago on the colors of the State, Orange and Blue.

792



Relationship to Illinois

Hello, I'm jayla thorpe, a student of Columbia College Chicago in the South Loop. I've lived in Illinois for a majority of my life and have fallen in love with the state, but the flag of Illinois always bothered me. In a state with one of the best city flags in the country, I felt like it was a disservice to the residents of Illinois to have one of the least inspired flags in the Union. I sadly couldn't apply for the recent Evanston flag contest, but I hope you will take my flag to heart here!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The White Cross represents the railroads, of which Illinois is the center of for the entire United States. The blue represents Lake Michigan, the Yellow represents Industry, and the Green represents Agriculture. This is my first flag submission, thank you very much for the chance!



793

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois; I moved to Chicago after college and have lived here for 13 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents Lake Michigan and the Illinois and Mississippi rivers that feed the fertile fields and define the western boundary of the Prairie State. The white field is an acknowledgement of the white field of Chicago's city flag while the stars represent Illinois' entrance into the US as the 21st state.



794

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents Illinois' entry into the US as the 21st state and the role that Illinois. The diagonal orientation of the stars on the blue field and the green and gold blocks represent the Prairie State's role in driving progress in the United States since achieving statehood.



795

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois born and raised, first-generation Mexican American. Educated Kindergarten through College in Illinois: Lincoln Lifer, RTHS Hub and Northern Illinois Huskie. My family came to Illinois in the Mid-60s through agricultural migrant work. I joined in their trade as a detassler and worked my way up to an Engineer. Illinois is where my family is, where my career is, and where my home is, also I am a Chicago Enthusiast.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A horizontal triband to symbolize Illinois' flat landscape as the Prairie StateYellow represents the wild prairie and farmland of IllinoisWhite is symbolic of the past and future as on homage to original Illinois flag field and as a blank new page for the future of IllinoisBlue represents the lakes and rivers of Illinois, Primarily Lake Michigan and the Mississippi RiverA single Six-pointed derived from the Flag of Chicago to colored in Illini Orange to represent Education



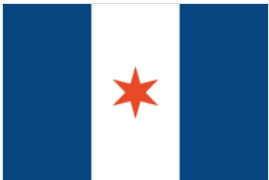
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Explain the meaning behind your flag

A vertical triband derived from Wallace Rice's Illinois Centennial flag design.A single Blue band over a white field, with a single white six-sided star, representing the state of Illinois as one and as an homage to the six-sided star of Chicago



797

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

A vertical triband, as an homage to our French origins. The outer bands in Blue represent the bodies of water on the East and West borders of Illinois (Primarily Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River)A single Six-sided star in the center is an homage to Wallace Rice's Six-pointed stars on the Flag of Chicago, it is colored in Illini Orange to represent Education.

798



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and have been a resident of Illinois for over 70 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background of the flag is the French flag honoring the French explorers Marquette and Joliet. The blue and red sections of the flag have 50 stars each and the white section has 2 stars representing the 102 counties in Illinois. The white section has ILLINOIS at the top and LAND OF LINCOLN at the bottom. In the middle of the white section has the outline of the State of Illinois and in middle of that outline is the SEAL OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.

799



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is based on John Massey's 1966 "Chicago Has a Great Lake" poster for Container Corporation of America (CCA) as part of the Chicago Cultural Communication Project. The left side of the flag features the corn fields of Illinois, while the center captures the state's vast plains, and the top right corner completes the flag with the abstract depiction of Lake Michigan. The blue base is an ode to the freshwater that has enabled those who call Illinois home to thrive for centuries.

800



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in Illinois for most of my life. I moved around from town to town as a child in Illinois, and then settled in Deerfield, where I have lived for the past six years. Even though I have lived in many other countries, I still consider Illinois to be my home, and when anyone asks where I'm from I say I'm from Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has many resemblances to the flag of Chicago, which is the most known part of Illinois. The background color is the color of the stripes of the Chicago flag, and it contains the famous red star from the Chicago flag. However, the middle stripe and triangle (reminiscent of the Illinois centennial flag) are the same blue as the blue on the flag of the United States, representing the country. The triangle also represents the progress and forward motion for the state.

801



Relationship to Illinois

I have live in Illinois all of my life, grew up in Waukegan and moved to Chicago for work after collage. Now raising a family in Chicago and plan to stay in IL for the rest of my life. I love this state, Lake Michigan, and the wonderful prairies of the country.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the lake and the 21 stripes represent IL being the 21st state. The waviness of the stripes represents the prairie as well as outlining the shape of the state. The color scheme as well as the general shape are symbolic of and give homage to the flag of the united states.

802

Relationship to Illinois



I was brought to Illinois when I was 9 years of age from Mexico City. Now, I am 34 years old and I'm proud to call Illinois, home. I've always lived in the suburb of Elgin (about 45 minutes away from Chicago). I went to elementary school, middle school, and graduated high school. Recently, I obtained my associate's degree in Human Services from Elgin Community College. As an immigrant and dreamer, I am highly appreciative of the many opportunities this state has provided me and my family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consist of two blue shades that represent the waterways throughout the state, making Illinois the largest inland system of rivers and waterways in the country. Across, a white shade that opens-up representing peace and a prosperous future; bigger, brighter. Purposely located on the top-right corner is a star representing the geographical location of the state in a US map (Northwest). The star is surrounded by two wheat leaves representing Illinois as a leading producer in agriculture.

803

Relationship to Illinois



I moved to Illinois when I was 6 years old and have lived in an hour outside of Chicago for a large majority of my life. My family will sometimes go on trips around Illinois seeing the ins and outs of places like Springfield and Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of my flag is an image that is meant to represent one of the most iconic sights from Illinois, Chicago. Everybody knows about Chicago, as it is a major city with many different draws for people to come visit. If you want to see beautiful works of art, we have an absolutely art institute, but if learning history is more your thing, there are many museums throughout the city and some major ones too. There are many amazing things in Chicago, and I wanted to show the city itself.

804

Relationship to Illinois



In 2010 I was born in Illinois and have lived there my entire life. I am currently an Illinois public school Freshman.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design has several meanings behind it. The flag features two light blue stripes towards the edges, giving a nod to the city of Chicago, the city which changed the shape of northern Illinois. There are five orange stars, which represent the five historical events that helped shape the city that built the states shape and economy.

805

Relationship to Illinois



I grew up in Evanston (Go Wildkits!) and have lived in Glenview since 1997. I have traveled to 47 states and 7 countries and would never consider living anywhere else. Illinois has diversity, culture, and changing seasons. But most of all it's where my people are.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Reflection of Illinois from Cloud Gate "The Bean" has become an icon synonymous with Illinois and represents our rich culture and creativity. Blue - Represents Lake Michigan, rivers and lakes, and the sky that connects us all. Green - Represents the parks and agriculture of Illinois. White Horizon Line - Represents our quest into the future.

806

Relationship to Illinois



I have lived in Cook County Illinois for my whole life. I enjoy many things in Wilmette, Illinois which is where I live. I love going to swim in Lake Michigan. My dad loves to go fishing so I have been to many natural water forms in Illinois. I love history so I have learned lots of Illinois history and have learned a lot of history in my integrated global study's at Highcrest middle school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the water that goes all along the right side of Illinois. The yellow displays the prairies and Illinois rich farming history. The green portrays the many natural resources and forms. It also symbolizes the rich history of freedom in Illinois.



807

Relationship to Illinois

I am part of a multi-generational Illinois family. I was born and raised in Salem, Illinois. I graduated from Salem Community High School, and from Eureka College in Eureka, Illinois. I have relatives ranging in location from Chicagoland, to Southern Illinois. I currently live in Glen Carbon, Illinois. I designed the County Seal for Madison County, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

BETTER ANGEL Inspired by Lincoln's 1st inaugural address, this flag embodies the spirit of unity and inclusion he invoked when he spoke of the "better angels of our nature." A stylized angel with 20 stars represents Illinois' diverse communities under its protective wings as well as the 1st 20 states. Three color blocks of red, navy and royal blue, reflect the state's urban, suburban, and rural populations. A prominent 21st star honors Illinois' place in the Union.



808

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois entire life. I am from Peoria Illinois, this is where my entire family resides. Last year in Peoria they chose to adopt a new flag. I entered one submission and was happy to be a finalist. The day they revealed their selection as the new Peoria County flag and I found out it was my design, I was filled with the utmost excitement to leave my mark on the place I call home. I would love to do the same for the entire state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the water surrounding our state. Towards the middle, all the agriculture that our state produces is in yellow. The white represents our industry. It is shaped in a way to show strength. The color white portrays the vast variety of industry in the state. In the middle we have a circle that all the outside elements funnel down into. The circle represents the unity in our state. We are diverse but united. The clay red gives heritage to our roots and our native American name.



809

Relationship to Illinois

no relationship to the state I just really enjoy designing flags for my home state of Texas as well as other states in the US.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

So it is simple at least from my perspective. I thought why not design a flag of sports teams in Illinois that represents all no politics or controversy the design has no meaning besides the colors and the three stars. Orange & Blue= for the fighting Illini Red= for the Chicago Bulls Red white and Blue= for the Chicago Cubs and the three white stars= just an homage to the city of Chicago flag



810

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my entire 14 years of life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included a few of the state things, like aviolet for the state flower, an apple for the state fruit, corn for the state crop, and a bluegill for the state fish. I followed a similar layout as the current flag for a base, and I added some extra colors.



811

Relationship to Illinois

I am illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It has a skyscraper, sunset, lake, Bald eagle



812

Relationship to Illinois

I am probably one of the most patriotic Illinois fan ever and I live in Illinois. I have a slogan which is "Here in Illinois we aren't silent but the s is".

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind the first flag is representing Chicago with two red stars and the Willis tower.



813

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life and my parents have lived here ever since they have immigrated to America.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I choose to add Lincolns hat as I feel like he played a big role in Illinois. I also added some mountains as I also think about some of the nature hiking places we have. I added the Mississippi river as it just sticks out to me because it plays a role in our state.



814

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and probably the most patriotic Illinois-ian In the world

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The second flag represents the Bean and Red because our bird is the Cardinal.



815

Relationship to Illinois

I live here and I am probably the most patriotic Illinois-ian ever.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

And the third represents the soybean and our slogan.



816

Relationship to Illinois

I have grown up in Geneva Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Chicago skyline since its the biggest city in Illinois and one of the biggest citys in the U.S.



817

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston and raised in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It includes the three things I think of when I think of Illinois; Chicago where I live, Corn which is something we are famous for producing, and water because water is such a valuable resource to our state with Lake Michigan to the northeast and the Mississippi river to the southwest and all the tributaries in between.

818



Relationship to Illinois

I am 15 years old and have live in Illinois all 15 years of my life and have loved and appreciated all 15.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The corn that is black represents the farming/and or rural side of Illinois that part of it, the black city outline represents the city aspect and or/side of life together both of the designs represent all the different walks of life in Illinois. Also, with them, the red lines show/represents the Chicago fire and remembering it as it was an important part of history, and the blue that shaded in the rest represents the great lake Michigan showing how it flows through the "Heart of Chicago"

819



Relationship to Illinois

Over the summer, I visited Illinois and found the state to be beautiful, in particular the Chicago River and Lake Michigan. I was also impressed by how the flag of Chicago has become such a powerful symbol of the city and clearly captured the hearts of Chicago residents. I was inspired by the pride Chicagoans took in flying their flag and I thought that the state of Illinois should have a similarly unique and meaningful symbol.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The base of my design calls back to the Illinois Centennial flag. The blue stripe represents the rivers that make up Illinois' borders and Lake Michigan. The two red stripes represent the two complementary concepts in the state motto, "State Sovereignty" and "National Union." The eight-pointed star represents state pride and allegiance to the United States, with the number of points alluding to 1818, the year that Illinois became a state.

820



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Black -represents the Willis/Sears TowerBlue -represents Lake MichiganGray -represents the rest of Chicago and the suburbsYellow -represents the corn grown in IllinoisGreen -represents Southern Illinois and the other crops

821



Relationship to Illinois

I moved from Mexico to Illinois when i was 4, i am now turning 15 soon, i have majority of my life here and consider it a home. Illinois and America as a whole has given me an infinite realm of possibilities for my future, i am proud to live in a place where every culture is allowed, where every religion can be practiced, where we have freedom. Illinois is my home

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put references to the nature of Illinois, such as crops grown here, and the state animal and bird, not a lot of detail but ended it with a bald eagle for a hint at the American symbolism

822



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and I've lived in Illinois all my life. Many of my close family members live in this state as well. No matter where I go in the future, Illinois is a place I can always call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The arrangement of blue, white, red, and stars is reminiscent of the shield on the Illinois Seal. The flower represents the natural prairie landscape of Illinois, and its colors are a reference to the colors of the sun rising in the Seal. The stars are the same in shape and amount as the flag of Chicago, our state's largest city. The two stripes are a reference to the antennae of the Sears Tower/ Willis Tower. The dark blue wavy line represents the rivers that flow through our state.

823



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and I've lived in Illinois all my life. Many of my close family members live in this state as well. No matter where I go in the future, Illinois is a place I can always call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is an alternate version of my flag (Image ID 822) where I have limited the amount of colors used. I also fixed an issue I only caught after submission where the stars on the flag were off-center. For the meaning behind the flag, you can refer to my previous submission, as there is a character limit here.

824



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and I've lived in Illinois all my life. Many of my close family members live in this state as well. No matter where I go in the future, Illinois is a place I can always call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white field is a callback to the current flag of Illinois. the blue colors and the waves at the right end represent the rivers and lakes in our state. The stars are the same shape as the flag of Chicago, and the three stars together are supposed to represent unity.

825



Relationship to Illinois

Living in Champaign-Urbana revealed to me the great community of the University of Illinois campus. Studying Chicago's revolutionary architecture and industrial development in books and then seeing it with my own eyes helped me believe in the greatness of dreams come true. Now when living in Northern Illinois I love and appreciate the gorgeous chain of lakes, stunning state parks, forest preserves, prairies, and wide open skies.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The profile of an eagle in light blue symbolizes peace and well-being. The red cardinal bird is an iconic symbol of Illinois fauna. Its half-white feathers represent loyalty to the country. Together two birds represent sovereignty and unity of state and federal law. 7 white stars stand for the 7 wonders of Illinois State. Dark blue background stands for vigilance, perseverance, and justice. White - wisdom. Green - agricultural heritage. Yellow round - sun and prosperity.

826



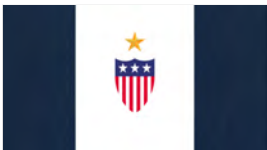
Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Roselle, Illinois in 1980 and have lived in the state most of my life. I moved to Chicago in 2000 and attended the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), where I eventually met my wife. We married and moved to California in 2014, but the pandemic brought us back home again (Lincolnwood, technically) in 2020, where we live today, with our 5 year old son. We love it here!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue: Northern Illinois. The vibrant metropolis of Chicago anchors the region, along the expansive shores of Lake Michigan. Yellow: Central Illinois. Known for its vast agricultural landscapes, particularly corn and soybean fields. Green: Southern Illinois. The Shawnee National Forest dominates the landscape, known for its natural beauty, and outdoor recreation opportunities.

827



Relationship to Illinois

We live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stands for the Union. The bright yellow star can represent corn or Chicago. The rest of the stars represent the other main cities in Illinois.



828

Relationship to Illinois

live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

old one is good



829

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The existing flag is fine, the eagle just needed an update.



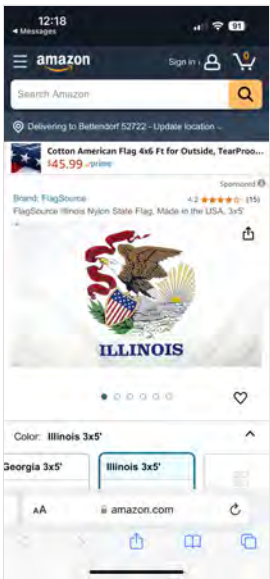
830

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life, and I love my state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

21 Stars for the 21st state (could only fit 15) 3 stripes in the background with the middle one colored in to represent the Midwest.



831

Relationship to Illinois

Retain current design.It represents all residents, and history of Illinois.Change for the sake change is not needed..

Explain the meaning behind your flag

See above

832

Relationship to Illinois



I first visited Illinois in the Summer of 2020. I was visiting my friend and roommate Jane, who was raised in the north suburbs. During that trip, I not only fell for the city of Chicago, but I fell for my friend too. When we graduated less than a year later, I asked Jane to move to Chicago with me to start a new chapter together. Chicago is the best city I have ever lived in, and I'm so lucky to call it home. Jane and I now reside in Pilsen with our two dachshunds, Oliver and Sadie.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents northeastern Illinois, with yellow representing the prairie grasslands, blue representing Lake Michigan, and the star representing Chicago. The 21 white and yellow stripes represent Illinois' history as the 21st state, and their meeting at the star signify the state's identity as a key transportation hub. The stripes being cut-off at the midpoint of the flag represents the flag, geographical topography of the state.

833

Relationship to Illinois



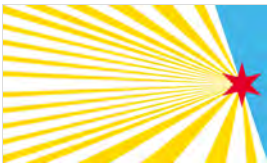
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834

Relationship to Illinois



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835

Relationship to Illinois



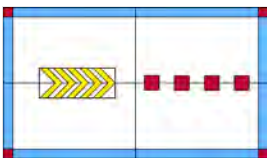
I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think that this state has a lot of corn

836

Relationship to Illinois

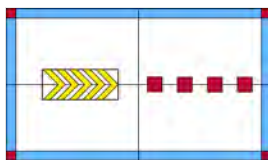


Life long citizen of IL (born in WI sadly). Proud Chicagoan and Union Member of the vibrant Film Community that prides in featuring our state to the world.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Done in Prairie style Architecture for the states representation of prairies and the architecture of Chicago. Red squares are major regions (Chicago, Chicagoland, Peoria, Rockford, Springfield, Quincy, Quad cities, Little Egypt). Blue sides are major body of water (Mississippi, Lake Michigan, Illinois River, Rock River) . The gold is for major industries for the state. Farming, Manufacturing, Finance, Transportation and the Labor movement.

837



Relationship to Illinois

Life long citizen of IL (born in WI sadly). Proud Chicagoan and Union Member of the vibrant Film Community that prides in featuring our state to the world.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Red squares are major regions (Chicago, Chicagoland, Peoria, Rockford, Springfield, Quincy, Quad cities, Little Egypt). Blue sides are major body of water (Mississippi, Lake Michigan, Illinois River, Rock River) . The gold is for major industries for the state. Farming, Manufacturing, Finance, Transportation and the Labor movement.

838



Relationship to Illinois

Small business owner in Springfield.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My idea for flag is simple. There is talk about be inclusive and pulling people together. My idea is Illinois should lead the way with this design and get all states to follow. We are all American and we should show that we are part of something bigger than just . I propose that we should lead the way with this design.

839



Relationship to Illinois

A high school student who lives here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's the leaf of the white oak and a Big Blue Stem which are known for being in Illinois. Along with the state motto.

840



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and moved back here 5 years ago. I am currently a 13 year old attending Bloomington Junior High School as an 8th grader.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag starts with the yellow at the bottom of the flag that represents the farmers and farming industry as a whole and how it has and is the support of the Illinois economy. The 3 light blue line represents the 3 main rivers in Illinois; The Ohio River, The Illinois River, and The Mississippi River. The 3 stars represent the 3 main regions of Illinois; the north, the central, and the south. Lastly the large navy blue section represents Illinois major modern industry.

841



Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 2 state colors are red and white so like the Chicago flag it alternates the colors red and white in a series of stripes.

842



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It includes the state animal the white tailed deer. The deer is jumping upwards reflecting the state's potential and forward looking trajectory. The 21 stars reflect the state's status as the 21st state. The stars are orange and in a circle as a nod to pumpkins since IL makes more pumpkins than any other state. The deep blue background is a nod to our midwest, blue collar values. It's Americana- the color of denim, the material that binds all Americans, rural and urban, young and old.

843



Relationship to Illinois

I am a student from the East Coast living and studying in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green and purple of the bottom half evoke the Big Bluestem grass of Illinois' historic prairie. The blue of the top half represents the waterways that shaped Illinois' economic history - the Mississippi, Ohio, and Illinois rivers, as well as Lake Michigan. The star in the upper right, a nod to the stars of the Chicago flag, stands for Illinois industry and role as the home of one of the great cities of the United States.

844



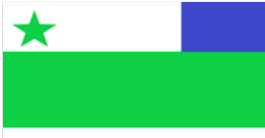
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845



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed a modern flag using the colors of nature in the beautiful state of Illinois. The green and blue shapes on a white background represent prairie grass, trees and waterways. The green star is a symbol of Illinois, the 21st state to join the Union.

846



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed a modern flag using the colors of nature in the beautiful state of Illinois. The green and blue shapes on a white background represent prairie grass, trees and waterways. The green star is a symbol of Illinois, the 21st state to join the Union.

847



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848

Relationship to Illinois

Father brought me to Chicago IL at 4yrs old. Where we lived in a studio apartment across from the university of chicago. At 5yrs old we moved to the Englewood area of Chicago. Where I started school at Basselementary school. Nobody knew it not even my mother in kindergarten I was a pretty good drawer at my young age. Through my school years I got better and better at drawing & Art thanks to my mother who is a very good artist. Went to Kennedy King College for graphics to further enhance my art.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design represents the strength of an eagle, my favorite bird. Created this eagle with a very aggressive look. Wanted my Illinois flag design to show the strength and power of the state of Illinois.



849

Relationship to Illinois

I have family in Illinois that dislike the flag, I want to help them by changing it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cyan represents the sky, green for the grass, and white for the clouds overhead, then the white symbol of the American bald eagle in a royal purple circle.



850

Relationship to Illinois

While I was not born here, I was raised here and have been a happy resident for the bulk of my 47 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is about binding the people of our large, prosperous and diverse state together. The golden maize represents the agricultural and industrial heart of state brought together and powered by the surrounding blue waters of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. And in the center, the icon of Illinois, the Great Emancipator himself is there to remind the world that Illinois stands for freedom for everyone.



851

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the Belleville, IL area. Though I live in St. Louis now, much of my family continues to live in the metro-east and the rest of Illinois. Professionally, I am a civil engineer who has worked for Illinois-based companies and continues to work with the Illinois Department of Transportation regularly.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue curving line to the left represents the Mississippi River. The blue triangular field in the upper right is Lake Michigan. The alternating white and blue stripes parallel the lake and are meant to mimic the flag of Chicago, positioned along the periphery of the lake. The remaining yellow field represents the golden agricultural heartland of the state. In this way, the distinct regions of our state are included in the flag.



852

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The color stripes are from the present Illinois that the flag has on it. The State Shape of Illinois could be a way for children to practice drawing the shape. The stars around the state represent the Springfield, IL flag, which is the capital of Illinois. Land of Lincoln stands for Abraham Lincoln who was a president also from Springfield, IL. The Est. 1818 was when Illinois was founded.



853

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and have lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red represents Illinois national bird, the cardinal.



854

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in McHenry Illinois and I don't plan on leaving anytime soon I love this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag talks about Illinois being the first state to vote for the 13th amendment for the abolishment of slavery and the colors blue and white represent there two rivers.



855

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state for years and will continue to do so while pursuing a PhD in political science at the University of Chicago. I've visited the state's cities, camped in its woods, swam in the lakes and rivers, and broken bread with its farmers.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green in the bottom left represents the forests and farms of the southern half while the blue in the upper right represents the north's connection with the water, especially Lake Michigan. In the center, a 6-pointed star pays homage to the city of Chicago and its surrounding suburbs. The orange of the star is a nod to our academic and athletic institutions, as well as our pumpkins. The blue stripes represent the state's two most important waterways, the Mississippi and Chicago rivers.



856

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and I have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The axolotl represents the freedom to think what we want. The balance represents the justice system in Illinois, and the paper represents the freedom of speech.



857

Relationship to Illinois

resident (i live here)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background color of the flag is navy blue to symbolize the great Lake Michigan, the corn symbolizes what the state is known for, and the four red stars are an homage to the four stars on the Chicago city flag.



858

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a multi-year Chicago resident and I'm a PhD student at the University of Chicago. I have visited the state's cities, swam in its rivers and in Lake Michigan, and shared meals in the country. Illinois is my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag centers on the state motto, State Sovereignty, National Unity. The central symbol is a stylized eagle in flight, with an Illinois star at its core, reflecting the motto and paying homage to the original state flag (another eagle on a white background). The central symbol also represents Chicago and its suburbs, while the orange represents the state's rural areas. The color palette is immediately identified with Illinois; blue represents its waters and orange its agriculture.

859



Relationship to Illinois

Lived in Illinois since age 9. Attended elementary, middle, and high school. Recently graduated from Elgin Community College. 34 year old Hispanic male who is honored to call Illinois home. DACA recipient who has worked in and advocate for mental health. Passionate about health, sociology, geography, and the arts.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

2 blue rectangles representing waterways, 1 white rectangle representing peace and prosperity, 1 four-pointed star representing the four coordinates, the four seasons, and the four ethnicities that land has being part of; in color red representing courage and bravery. 2 wheat leaves representing agriculture.

860



Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star is to represent were in America and the stripes in red for freedom and red also for the Chicago fire

861



Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home since 1990. When I traveled from Chicago to Southern Illinois, I recall visiting the prairies, marveling at plant life and ecosystem diversity. In Chicago, I get the vista of the skyscrapers and the view of the great Lake Michigan. The flag is simple in its form; however, its green color captures Illinois' biodiversity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is simple in its form; however, its green color captures Illinois' biodiversity. The black outline forms Illinois State and the people who inhabit its boundaries, and the blue-outlined star reminds us of one of the fifty states.

862



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I was born in the suburbs, went to college at Illinois State University, taught civics for 14 years in the state, and got my masters degree in political science at University of Illinois Springfield. I love Illinois and want the state to have a better flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag evokes the centennial flag created by Wallace Rice, the creator of the Chicago flag. The flag highlights Illinois' wonderful waterways. The blue stripe on the left represents Lake Michigan. The two diagonal stripes represent the Illinois River and the Ohio River. The horizontal stripe represents the Mississippi River. The 2 blue stars represent Kaskaskia and Vandalia. The white star represents Springfield. The white triangle represents the connection of northern, central, & southern IL.

863



Relationship to Illinois

Citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is the state of Illinois insect is the monarch butterfly. And it reminds me of my great grandma who passed away a couple of years ago and it was one of her favorite things.

864



Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the state (Bolingbrook & Wheaton) and have lived and worked here my whole life (except for college).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is called Always Growing and represents the opportunity and prosperity of the state. The white represents opportunity, gold represents agriculture (corn, soybeans), and blue represents the waterways that shaped the state, naturally and historically. The points on the stars add up to 21 for the 21st state. The three stars represent northern, central, and southern IL. The stripes evoke rail lines (a nod to Lincoln as a rail-splitter), crop lines, canals, rivers, or a truss of a bridge.

865



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois born citizen. I am a part of many groups and clubs, especially benefiting the agricultural community of IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is the brown diamond, representing our strong rich soil we carry in Illinois. The yellow ring around the bird representing the golden presidency of Abraham Lincoln. The pieces of wheat representing the Prairie State Illinois represents. The cardinal and violet being Illinois state bird and flower. And lastly the blue and yellow ribbon saying Illinois to represent Illinois strong FFA leadership.

866



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There is a field representing the plains of Illinois with wheat and hills.

867



Relationship to Illinois

I have family in Illinois that dislike the flag, I want to help them by changing it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cyan represents the sky, green for the grass, and white for the clouds overhead, then the white symbol of the American bald eagle in a royal purple circle.

868



Relationship to Illinois

good

Explain the meaning behind your flag

project

869

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in May of 2013 with my family after 20 years in the USAF Reserve. Illinois is where my wife's family is from and it is where I have made my home after my military service. I have been a fan of flag design through all of my travels in the States and in the Military. As soon as we had moved here, I have began working on various ideas for Illinois' new flag. I am honored to have an opportunity to participate in this process. My phone number is from NC, but I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My proposal for the new State Flag is a redesign of the Illinois Centennial Flag. It is also inspired by the Chicago Flag, being its inverse pattern. This is intended to be recognizable as an Illinois design, but still being distinct from Chicago. It has the same dimensions of the Chicago Flag, to include the stripes. There are 20 five pointed blue Stars on this flag to represent the 20 other States, with one larger white star in the center representing Illinois as the 21st State to join the US.



870

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Logan Square in Chicago, since 2014.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is based off the Union Sheild on the current flag, resrepresenting Illinois' unwavering support for the Union during the Civil War. It has 21 stripes to represent our place in the Union, and 13 6-pointed stars to represent the USA and the 6 pointed stars represent Chicago and our connection to the Great Lakes Region. The light blue is also for Lake Michigan.



871

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and lived in the state all my life in the South Suburbs of Chicago. Currently residing in Oak Lawn.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue stripes represents the Mississippi River and Ohio River, which makes up a significant portion of the boundary of Illinois. The blue triangle represents Lake Michigan, The red star represents the urban areas and the green field represents rural areas and agriculture.



872

Relationship to Illinois

I have family in Illinois that dislike the flag, I want to help them by changing it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cyan represents the sky, green fir the grass, and white for the clouds overhead, then the white symbol of the American bald eagle in a royal purple circle.



873

Relationship to Illinois

Birn and raised in Illinois. Lived in Tinley Park, Orland Park, Bridgeview, Worth, Matteson, and Oak Lawn.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue stripes represents the Mississippi River and the Ohio River. The blue triangle represents Lake Michigan. The green field represents rural areas and the agricultural industry. The big red star represents Chicago, and the 4 smaller red stars represents Rockford, Aurota, Naperville, and Joliet.





874

Relationship to Illinois

lived here almost all my life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A bright red, white and blue background with the state image in white. I kept the wording the same from the current flag, with the state name boldly displayed. I feel it keeps the american feel to it.



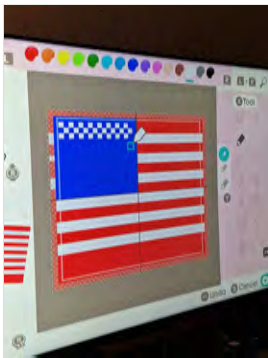
875

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Peoria entire life, I am a small business owner and a proud Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Wanting something more modern and updated, I went with clean vibrant colors. Elements that are quintessential Illinois like Abe Lincoln silhouette, Springfield skyline and the eagle as an honor to our current flag.



876

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

New, better and filled with spunk. Traditional values



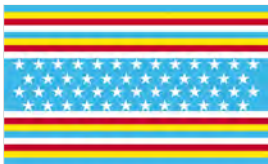
877

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue and orange are Illini colors and the tree represents progress and growth.



878

Relationship to Illinois

Test

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Test (I am getting an error that does not allow me to submit my explanation).

879



Relationship to Illinois

Seventeen years ago, I was born in the city of Hoffman Estates (IL). As a now-senior in high school, I love my state for exposing me to two very different sides of life; the beauty found in natural rural landscapes, as well as the bustling energy of the Chicago city.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow from the original flag of Illinois represents our flourishing agricultural economy. The red of the US flag represents the energy seen in our sprawling railroad infrastructure. The blue is the same shade used in the Chicago flag. The white represents Illinois's education program.

880



Relationship to Illinois

I do not live in Illinois, and I have never been, but I have learned about the rich history, culture, and beauty of Illinois while researching for this flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to show the natural beauty of Illinois. Showing the parries of Illinois, the Illinois river, and the blue sky. Simplifying the eagle to keep part of the original flag into the redesign.

881



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882



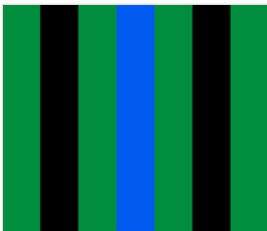
Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago. I have lived in Wheaton and Naperville, and I attended colleges both in urban and rural areas in Illinois. I currently work at a federal office near O'Hare airport.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The new flag is mostly white to show lineage with the current flag. The sun on the right side is a reference to the state seal. There are 21 rays coming off the sun, symbolizing IL as the 21st state. The flat white horizon symbolizes the fertile farmland carved out by glaciers. The blue symbolizes justice in IL. The red symbolizes the bravery of IL historical figures such as Abe Lincoln.

883



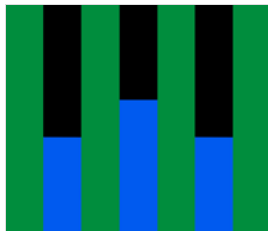
Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident for most of my life. We moved to the state when I was two years old, and in my 40+ years in Illinois I have lived in three different regions, giving me experience and insight into a wide range of our state. I grew up in rural Southern Illinois (Mt. Carmel), went to college and later lived and worked in Champaign-Urbana, and have lived in the City of Chicago for the past 20 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have created three flag designs all built around three colors symbolizing elements of Illinois. Green to represent crops and green spaces in our state. Blue to represent waterways throughout the state, particularly our border rivers (Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash--my hometown river), the Illinois River, and Lake Michigan. Black to represent skyscrapers and buildings in the state.

884



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886



Relationship to Illinois

I love your state, and the people who make up it. So I have created a flag for your lovely state, for my relatives, and everybody who calls it home. My relationship is that my relatives live in your lovely state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bottom and top red and white stripes represent the large Polish community within Illinois as well as to pay homage to the American flag. The blue stripe within the middle of the flag is supposed to represent the city of Chicago, as well as the great lakes and abundant rivers within the state. The six-pointed red star on top of the blue stripe represents the five groups that controlled Illinois. The 20 blue stars plus the red star represent that Illinois was the 21st state.

887



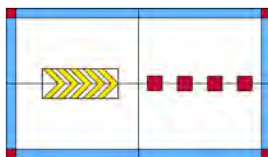
Relationship to Illinois

Despite never having lived in Illinois I feel a connection to the state as a citizen of a fellow Great Lake state, Minnesota. It is my opinion that the states of our region share a common history and experiences that tie us together.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag uses many of the features of the original flag while adding details to make Illinois stand out and be recognizable. Maintained in this design are the eagle representing Illinois place in the Union and the banner containing the state motto. Added to the design are two horizontal blue bars on the bottom representing the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. In the canton of the flag is a blue 6-pointed star, this was chosen as the symbol appears commonly in other Illinois flags.

888



Relationship to Illinois

Life Long citizen (except for born in Wisconsin til i was 3 months old). Proud Chicagoan and union member of the Film Industry that prides ourselves in showcasing our state to the world.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Done in Prairie style Architecture for the states representation of prairies and the architecture of Chicago. Red squares - Major Regions (Chicago, Chicagoland, Peoria, Rockford, Springfield, Quincy, Quad cities, Little Egypt). Blue sides - Major bodies of water (Mississippi, Lake Michigan, Illinois River, Rock River) . The gold is for Major industries for the state farming, Manufacturing, Finance, Transportation and the Labor movement.



889

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the eagle is fore America, the corn is for Illinois because we have a lot of corn,the planes are for the people who are helping keep our country free, and the top hat on the eagle is for Abraham lincon.



890

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the star stands for one state, most people in Illinois like dogs, the flag is fore America, Abraham Lincoln stands fore lincoin, and root 66 go's through.



891

Relationship to Illinois

I have family thare

Explain the meaning behind your flag

blue for the Mississippi rivergreen for the landblue for lake michiganthe star for the people



892

Relationship to Illinois

My Ancestor fought in Civil War. He enlisted early in answer to President Lincoln's call for Union troops.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Simplified flag design pulling from the Red White and Blue themes of the present Illinois State Flag, with a nod to it's history with President Lincoln / the Union represented via the five point star on a blue field. Red White and Blue design represent the current citizens and progress of Illinois.



893

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since the age of 3, and consider myself a proud Illinoisan. I think it's one of the most beautiful states in the country. I root for Illinois teams in college sports by default. I have strong opinions on pizza styles. I don't consider it a true St. Patrick's day until the river turns green.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag uses a simplified state seal in the middle. In the corners, the two red triangles represent the state's fertile soil, and the two blue ones represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The four gold stars represent the state's wealth, and their points (one 6-pointed, three 5-pointed) add up to 21, referencing Illinois as the 21st state. The 6-pointed star also references Chicago's flag.



894

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised; I don't plan on leaving anytime soon. Please forgive me if my flag looks rough, it's my first go ahead at it and I hope if it's pleasing enough someone else will do it justice.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I always thought the old seal on a white background flag was a bit pedestrian for the flag of Illinois, though I still liked the iconography. I thought to include the eagle to represent the USA as well as a callback to the old flag alongside the sun, with it now being in the sky rather than rising to represent the progress we've made. The background remains a pure white much like the previous with a green strip representing the fertile soil with the meandering misissippi cutting through it.

895



Relationship to Illinois

People who I know are from there, and many family members also live there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

21 stars represent the state being the 21st in the union, 7 stars highlighted for being over 100,000 in population, in a shape surrounding a larger star representing Chicago as a major city and corresponding Chicagoland, green representing plains and blue representing Lake Michigan.

896



Relationship to Illinois

My late wife Maureen Thomas (██████████) was born and raised in Oak Park, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The idea of mine is simply an embellishment to the existing flag (helps to save money on an entire new design). Placing red and blue vertical bars on each end (with a narrow white stripe in between the colors) eliminates the 'seal-on-bedsheet' look. Not overly imaginative, but practical and economic.

897



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in IL since I was 3 and consider myself a proud Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is inspired by the Sesquicentennial flag from 1968. The blue sections represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, and form a capital I in the white space between, with a silhouette of Abraham Lincoln in the middle. The star in the corner represents the forward-thinking, ambitious, and aspirational nature of Illinois and its people.

898



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago following college to take advantage of the robust opportunities available in the field of advertising and design. I have remained and thrived, having started multiple small businesses that have supported my career aspirations better than in any other place in the nation.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The simplicity and boldness of this flag design are supported by a great many symbols that are core to the state. With COLOR, I have drawn on the state's agriculture with gold... the state's connection to Lake Michigan with blue... and the Chicago flag with red. For HISTORY, I have depicted 21 stars to reflect the position Illinois holds for becoming a part of the Union, and the numbers 1818 to reflect the actual year.

899



Relationship to Illinois

My favorite president is Abraham Lincoln.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A Fleur-de-lis represents the state's French history, and the background is an homage to the 1918 Centennial flag designed by Wallace Rice. The white bars represent peace and justice, while the blue bar in the middle represents the Illinois river.

900



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my whole life, growing up in Palatine, going to college at ISU in Normal and currently work in Des Plaines and live in Rolling Meadows. I have always loved history and vexillology, for symbols are so powerful for cultural unity. I have always adored the blend of cutting edge industry and down to earth farms that Illinois is known for. I am proud to live in Illinois and I hope to have a flag that I can be proud of some day too. Thank you for looking at my submission.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a square split down the middle by the mighty Mississippi River, Illinois' notable western border. On the left side are 20 smaller green stars, and one blue star in the middle, representing us at the 21st state. The stars are on a slightly beige background, unlike a pure white, to represent the prairie settlers & our welcoming nature as Illinoisans. On the right, it is split with green on the bottom, to represent The Prairie State, and blue on top to represent our beautiful blue skies.

901



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Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is 4x3 and split down the middle by the mighty Mississippi River, Illinois' notable western border. On the left side are 20 smaller green stars, and one blue star in the middle, representing us at the 21st state. The stars are on a slightly beige background, unlike a pure white, to represent the prairie settlers & our welcoming nature as Illinoisans. On the right, it is split with green on the bottom, to represent The Prairie State, and blue on top to represent our beautiful blue skies.

902



Relationship to Illinois

We are residents of Illinois .

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun represents the state nickname while the waves represent Carlyle Lake & Lake Michigan. The eagle is simplified representing the USA. The state motto and the year 1818 are under the word Illinois. The 3 stars represent the 3 biggest cities in the state it . The design is very simple.

903



Relationship to Illinois

My family fled the pogroms and terrors of Europe to settle here in Illinois a hundred years ago. Over the past century we have flourished in this fertile prairie, building small businesses, culminating in me working toward my doctorate of physics in the heart of the Silicon Prairie, our flagship university.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is a state laden with symbols and meanings. My flag seeks to combine our previous flag with the potent images that every Illinoisian recognizes. In the center, a homage to our old flag, is a suited eagle holding money, standing on flourite, symbolizing the commerce and bustle of Chicago, wearing a Lincoln hat. Other symbols of our state, the Cahokia mounds representing our native antecedents, the cardinal, deer, painted turtle, bluegill, tiger salamander and monarch, corn and grasses.

904



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago at Saint Anns Hospital in 1963. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. Both my parents and grandparents were also from Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have three designs ideas for a new flag and they all carry the same theme. Illinois is divided into three major geographical areas and fourteen natural divisions. Using this as a guide, each composition consists of three stripes and fourteen stars. This is number one.

905



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago in 1963. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. Both my parents and grandparents were also from Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have three ideas for a new flag and they all carry the same theme. Illinois is divided into three major geographical areas and fourteen natural divisions. Using this as a guide, each composition consists of three stripes and fourteen stars. This is number two.

906



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago in 1963. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. Both my parents and grandparents were also from Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have three ideas for a new flag and they all carry the same theme. Illinois is divided into three major geographical areas and fourteen natural divisions. Using this as a guide, each composition consists of three stripes and fourteen stars. This is number three.

907



Relationship to Illinois

I have been in Illinois for my whole life and it's a very nice place. I am entering this contest because it's very fun to enter contests.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put Abraham Lincoln on the flag because he is a very important person and I put bald eagles on my flag because they live in Illinois. Also I put corn and Chicago popcorn because they are very known in Illinois. Finally I put the U.S.A flag on because Illinois is in the United States of America.

908



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, grew up in the small town of Cordova, and graduated from Western Illinois University last year. I intend to remain in the state and would love for the state to have a well-designed flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White with blue detail was chosen to honor the current flag, Orange is unique, joyful, and connects to the state via Univ. of IL and the Bears. The prominent 16-pointed star represents IL, the Land of Lincoln, 16th President. It also represents IL as a transportation hub reaching out off the flag bringing in people with diverse backgrounds to build a brighter future.

909



Relationship to Illinois

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910

Relationship to Illinois



I've lived in Illinois my entire life. My parents came to this country at different points in their lives; my dad came here in the 70's while my mother came here in the 90's. I initially lived in Chicago for 22 years of my life. I currently live in Oak Lawn, but often go through Chicago. Illinois is the only place I've known and have created a life in. I also went to school in Illinois so my education is from here as well. The way my perspective of the world has been shaped was through IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 16 black and white stripes represent our 16th president Abraham Lincoln. Some stripes are black to represent train tracks and coal, because we are known for our industrialization. The green section represents our green pastures and farmland. The five rows of stars represent Cahokia, Kaskaskia, Michigamea, Peoria, and Tamaroa, for they are the 5 main tribes of the Illinois Confederation. Finally, they look towards a rising sun to represent the bright future we are setting up for the next gen.

911

Relationship to Illinois



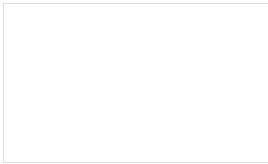
My ties to Illinois run deep as I have ancestors that have lived here for over 100 years. Born in Jacksonville, I have lived in Central, Southern, and Western Illinois over the past four decades. I have grown up in the state, been educated here, and worked for the state and University of Illinois throughout my professional career. Illinois is where my children were born and where I choose to reside.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a snarky entry. Yearly news articles come out about the high tax burden Illinois residents face. My flag is for those who feel especially aggrieved about this and incorrectly feel they receive nothing for their tax payments. The well known joke statement on the flag is also something I used growing up as a humorous town motto when my siblings and I would create a city with Hotwheels on our driveway in Bloomington growing up. Colors are a nod to the U of I.

912

Relationship to Illinois



THIS IS A TEST OF THE CHARACTER LIMIT

Explain the meaning behind your flag

THIS IS A TEST OF THE CHARACTER LIMIT

913

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in California and moved to Illinois for college. I have lived in Urbana for three years and attend UIUC for graduate studies. My great (x2) grandfather was in the Illinois Infantry. I have recently been able to tour the Abraham Lincoln historic sites, and I enjoy learning about his life and writings and his connections to

Explain the meaning behind your flag

THIS IS A TEST OF THE CHARACTER LIMIT

914

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in California and moved to Illinois for college. I have lived in Urbana for three years and attend UIUC for graduate studies. My great (x2) grandfather came from one of the original families of Maquon, IL and was a veteran of the Civil war, serving in the 61st regiment of the Illinois Infantry. I have recently been able to tour the Abraham Lincoln historic sites, and I enjoy learning about his life and writings and his connections to the city of Urbana.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Crossroads of America. Inspired by the Centennial flag, the tricolor includes blue for the Illinois river, and white symbolizing equality. Two orange triangles mimic a sheaf of grain evoking the prairies and farming heritage. Ten stars above and below represent crossroads of the north and south and Illinois pivotal role in abolition. Two white arrows derive from native artwork of the Illinois Confederation.

915

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916

Relationship to Illinois

I have been born and raised in the state of Illinois. I am proud to be apart of this state and live my life here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Oranges represent the Harvest season, and showcase Illinois importance in the food production of our country. The blues represent the waterways of the state that allow Illinois to be the center of transportation of goods and people. They represent Lake Michigan, the Illinois River, The Mississippi River, The Ohio River, and The Wabash River. All of these things makes Illinois great, and it creates a striking flag that works together in harmony, while standing out.



917

Relationship to Illinois

Im from peoria and i love to make YT videos i have 2M subs on youtube and i just wanna see my flag on everything

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Just a little troll dont come get me for this



918

Relationship to Illinois

I've grown up in Illinois, I go to school in Illinois, I have never lived in any other state, and I have grown up loving Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors making up the sunset are all state related, Red for the state bird the cardinal, Orange for the state insect the monarch butterfly, pink for the state rock fluorite, and purple for the state flower the purple violet. I left the name of the state on the flag because it has a story behind it.



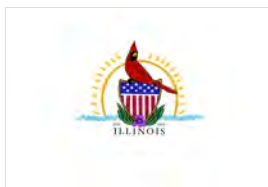
919

Relationship to Illinois

I am a current animation student attending Depaul University in Chicago, I have lived in illinois since I was born.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Illinois flag design features the cardinal, our state bird, and the violet, the state flower, symbolizing our natural beauty. The water represents Lake Michigan, a key feature of Illinois. The 21 rays of sunlight signify Illinois as the 21st state. The 13 stars in the shield refer to the 13th Amendment, marking our role in history. The years 1818 and 1868 highlight Illinois' statehood and the adoption of the current state seal.



920

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is that it is the state I live in. It is the place that I have known as home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that is is the colors of a monarch butterfly which is the state butterfly. I chose the colors of it too make it more simple.





921

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life. I love living in Illinois, and I thought this was really cool.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I did the sunset in my flag, like the original flag. I also did the shield with the thirteen stars like the original flag. I made it look like the shield is rising up out of the sunset.



922

Relationship to Illinois

An Admirer from afar.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A modern take on a Diagonal Quartered flag. The 6 pointed star reflects the Centennial flag and can represent the Sauk, Mesquakie, Potawatomi, Kickapoo, Winnebago, and Illiniwek. The blue hues can represent Lake Michigan, Illinois River, Mississippi River. The red is pulled from the ribbon on the existing flag.



923

Relationship to Illinois

As a lifetime resident of Illinois and a career graphic designer, the opportunity to assist the Illinois Flag Commission with their redesign project is an honor, and a perfect way to give back to my community during semi-retirement. I attended Illinois Public Schools in Evanston and Elmhurst, along with graduating from College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn. Please feel free to view my website at www.ktgrafiks.com.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission 3 of 3 Illinois HorizonThe navy blue silhouette shows the diversity of our Illinois population, from suburbs, to large cities, to farm land. The large seal of Illinois in yellow is a nod to our previous flag, and is also an abstract sun rising on the horizon. The Illinois shape is green with a white corn icon to showcase our agriculture as a top producer of corn. The fonts are consistent with the current flag.



924

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-Born in IL. I got a bachelors degree (EIU) & masters in Secondary Education -History along with Type 9 Admin License. My undergrad degree let me teach 7-12 Social Studies at Hartsburg-Emden. I was 5-12 principal for 5 years before returning to classroom. My MS in Secondary Education-History let me to teach for IDOC at Lincoln, Logan & Decatur Correction Centers for MacMurray & Richland College. I retired with 46 years at Hartsburg-Emden & was adjunct history teacher at Lincoln College.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller- Illinois -21st state...21 stars.



925

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927

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller- Lifelong resident of state from Batavia with exception of time in Army (Vietnam). My occupation before retired was a draftsman and in the Army an illustrator. My Illinois state quarter design was used as a state press release, which was in two national papers.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller- History, Abraham Lincoln. State Capitol, Springfield IL. The name of Illinois including the date entered into the union. Our national claim to fame, Land of Lincoln. The background for flag should be blue, background for interior is pink or light red. All work was done by hand, no computer. I also studied other states and territories, the less the better with basically one image and one to three colors.



928

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years I was born and raised here I am in 6th grade and would love to make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I would love to have equality in Illinois no matter the race sex or difference. I reused the original photo because it is the original one and it looks super nice.



929

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red and blue because of other city's flags and the deer crossing for the state's animal (whitetail deer), the wheel for the state exercise (cycling), and the purple circle because of the state flower (violet).



930

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 12 years. I have attended Heartland Community College. I currently attend Lake Land College. I found the flag competition flyer inside the college library. Even though I did not grow up here, how I lived my life while attending school here, I have travelled throughout the entire state. I lived in Normal and now live in Effingham. Illinois is where I received my post-secondary education for community college.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag entry is composed of the northern cardinal as the state bird. The bird is under the gaze of the Chicago city star. The blue underline represents the Illinois River that provides the backbone of this state.



931



Relationship to Illinois

I Grew up in and still live in Illinois, I do graphic design at my school so the ability to use my knowledge about design was fun as well as growing up in Illinois and getting a chance to make the flag was super cool.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The field with corn, pumpkin, and soybean represent the plants Illinois is most know for, the dates and state moto are on the flag because they represent Illinois, the car on the road, in the middle of fields, has the state license plate and is in the middle of a field because Illinois has many fields. There might be other meanings that it could stand for/could be added.

932



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The red circle shows we are all one. The Illinois border outline is to show our state. 1868 is the first use of the state seal and 1818 for statehood. The cardinal shows our state bird. The word Illinois stands for the state name. The big middle building is Willis Tower with other city buildings around it. The color choice is red and white, our state colors. Finally, a white flag with the drawing in the middle.

933



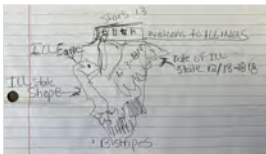
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - My name is Regina Brown and I am [redacted] years old. I grew up in Chicago and have lived here my entire life. I live on the south side of Chicago in the Chicago Housing Authority Dearborn Homes on [redacted]. I got introduced to the flag in grammar school. I recall reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and singing the Star Spangled Banner every morning in elementary school. I still enjoy singing the Pledge of Allegiance every day.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller

934



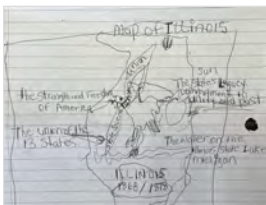
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Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Thirteen stars and thirteen bars represents the first thirteen colonies.

935



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - My name is Regina Brown and I am [redacted] years old. I grew up in Chicago and have lived here my entire life. I live on the south side of Chicago in the Chicago Housing Authority Dearborn Homes on [redacted]. I got introduced to the flag in grammar school. I recall reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and singing the Star Spangled Banner every morning in elementary school. I still enjoy singing the Pledge of Allegiance every day.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The dates on the seal 1818 and 1868 represent the year Illinois became a state and the year in which the great seal was redesigned by Sharon Tyndale.



936

Relationship to Illinois

Retired business owner and lifelong resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors represent the sky, sun, lakes and farm land. The curve is the land and water. The design does not contain anything that could later be controversial.



937

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors represent the sky, sun, lakes and farm land. The curve is the land and water. The design does not contain anything that could later be controversial.



938

Relationship to Illinois

Retired business owner and lifelong resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors represent the sky, sun, lakes and farm land. The curve is the land and water. The design does not contain anything that could later be controversial.



939

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the beautiful state of Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design was created by Wallace Rice (who previously designed the flag of Chicago) in 1918, for the 100th anniversary for Illinois' admittance to the Union. The 10 stars above and below the blue band represent the 10 northern and 10 southern states at the time of Illinois' admittance to the Union. The white star represents Illinois itself. This flag represents the history of Illinois' statehood in striking simplicity, and I implore the commission to consider its adoption as our next state flag.



940

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois have lived here for my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eighteen stars on each side represent the year the State of Illinois was founded, 1818. The blue represents the Illinois River and Lake Michigan, both of which are important parts of the state. The yellow represents agriculture, one of Illinois' largest industries, especially corn, the main crop that is grown in Illinois.



941

Relationship to Illinois

Proud resident for approximately 38 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My proposal for a new Illinois flag features the legendary Piasa Bird of Alton, IL fame. The colors are a salute to Chicago. The blue bands represent the Mississippi, the Wabash, the Ohio, and Lake Michigan.

942

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, been living in Illinois all my life. I am a local entertainer known to many as Rico Hampton Michael Jackson tribute artist, I've performed all around the country but there's nothing like coming home to perform for the people of the great state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I've come up with over 20 ideas of my flag idea.. but the main idea was to use the shape of Illinois as the focal point because not too many other use that idea, I think the shape of Illinois would be creative, eye catching and educational. I also think other states may use the idea if they ever decide to change their state flag.. So for this design I put the state in the middle of the flag placing the state seal in the middle, with 6 stripes, either Blue and White or the Red, White and blue.



943

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, been living in Illinois all my life. I am a local entertainer known to many as Rico Hampton Michael Jackson tribute artist, I've performed all around the country but there's nothing like coming home to perform for the people of the great state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

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944

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

I've come up with over 20 ideas of my flag idea.. but the main idea was to use the shape of Illinois as the focal point because not too many other use that idea, I think the shape of Illinois would be creative, eye catching and educational. I also think other states may use the idea if they ever decide to change their state flag.. So for this design I put the state in the middle of the flag placing the state seal in the middle, with 6 stripes, either Blue and White or the Red, White and blue.



945

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago my entire life. I attended colleges in both urban and rural areas in Illinois. I currently work at a federal office in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design simplifies the IL flag. The white means purity and references the current flag. The green represents IL's agriculture and prosperity. The blue represents the lakes and rivers that define our borders, and symbolizes justice and truth. The red eagle represents bravery and freedom. The 2 wings of the eagle represent our 2-part state motto: State Sovereignty, National Union. The geometric style pays homage to IL's Native American history.



946

Relationship to Illinois

Live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The symbol in the middle represents the State Flower, the Common Blue Violet. The green in the center represents tranquility and unity. The white represents peace, and the purple represents spirituality and creativity.



947



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here full time since fall 1997.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue field: US flag canton, represents the nation. Charge: Represents history & future of Illinois. Charge shape: Rutherford atomic model, represents the 1st human-made self-sustaining nuclear reaction & 50% of the state's electrical generation. Charge color: Yellow and green orbitals imply 3 ears of corn, nucleus implies soybean, represents the state's agricultural foundation. 6 lobes are a nod to Chicago's six-pointed stars.

948



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois after living in Missouri all my life at the beginning of 2020. The pandemic had hit and I was looking for a place to make my home. I may not have been here long but I love the state and want to do everything I can to help make it a better place to be.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue chevron on the fly side of the flag represent the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and how they shape the state. The Green chevron represents the fertile farmlands that make up the majority of the state. The ten upper and ten lower stars reference the centennial flag and represent the ten northern and ten southern states admitted to the union before the state of Illinois. The central yellow star represents Illinois and also the sun that makes the crops grow.

949



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in DeKalb and raised in Kirkland, and have lived in DeKalb county and state my entire life. My ancestors emigrated from Ukraine and Ireland to Illinois sometime in the early 1900's. All of my education, kindergarten through my current semester of college, has been done in Illinois. I have lived here my whole life and I intend to never leave and hope to one day help the community that I love so much. I have been creating redesigns for our state flag since I was a kid.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red on both sides represents the blood that we all share, regardless of background. The star on the hoist side represents Chicago and its metro area as well as the North Star. In the center of the flag is the piasa, a creature from Native American legend that was depicted in two murals found on cliffsides on the Illinois side of the Mississippi River. This specific sketch was created in 1876 from a description of the original murals. The piasa is colored violet, our state flower.

950



Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents water, from the rivers that cut across the state to the rain that gives our crops life to the Great Lakes, the blue represents it all. The outline of the state represents Illinois. The orange represents pumpkins and da Bears. The green stripe represents the rural portion of the state, with its beautiful rolling green fields and vast, dense forests. The grey stripe represents the urban and industrial portion of Illinois. The white represents the unity of both in Illinois.

951

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in DeKalb and raised in Kirkland, and have lived in DeKalb county and state my entire life. My ancestors emigrated from Ukraine and Ireland to Illinois sometime in the early 1900's. All of my education, kindergarten through my current semester of college, has been done in Illinois. I have lived here my whole life and I intend to never leave and hope to one day help the community that I love so much.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents Illinois's waterways and the sky. The white represents the clouds, snow, and the unity of the different parts of the state. The purple represents the state flower, the Violet, as well as its status as the Monarch of the Midwest. The flag is intended to look like a monarch butterfly flying over a field of violets into the sky. The monarch butterfly is the state insect and is a common sight, not just in our prairies, but in all parts of the state.

952

Relationship to Illinois



My relationship to Illinois is limited to my ancestors enlistment as a Union Soldier when Lincoln called up the troops. My ancestor was from Wisconsin, Lincoln from was from Illinois. I am also a midwesterner..

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Briefly The red white and blue theme is pulled from the current flag, it is a nod to " The State of Abraham Lincoln ". The green is for the verdant growth that Illinois is known for - from the windy city to the land of abundant crops. The committee can add further meanings to this design.

953

Relationship to Illinois



I am a Midwesterner - my ancestor enlisted in the Union as response to Lincoln's call for troops.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Briefly The red white and blue theme is pulled from the current flag, it is a nod to " The State of Abraham Lincoln ". The green is for the verdant growth that Illinois is known for - from the windy city to the land of abundant crops. The committee can add further meanings to this design.

954

Relationship to Illinois



Im a new resident that has visited for years and finally mad the move to the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white represents all Illinoisans of the state and a nod to the original state flag. The gold stripe represents the "I" in Illinois and the color is for the fertile agricultural land of Illinois. The blue represents all the rivers and canals in Illinois and Lake Michigan connecting the state. And the star represents Chicago at the shores of Lake Michigan, in the northeast corner of the state, as a hub for the state of Illinois.

955

Relationship to Illinois



Im a new resident that has visited for years and finally mad the move to the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white represents all Illinoisans of the state and a nod to the original state flag. The gold stripe represents the "I" in Illinois and the color is for the fertile agricultural land of Illinois. The blue represents all the rivers and canals in Illinois and Lake Michigan connecting the state. And the star represents Chicago at the shores of Lake Michigan, in the northeast corner of the state, as a hub for the state of Illinois.

956

Relationship to Illinois

I love our state: the variety of land, bluffs, lakes and rivers, a national forest, big cities, our central location in the US. I've lived here all my life (as have my parents), and my grandparents on both sides came to the state to seek their future and build new lives.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to design something with a clean, modern look, while incorporating historic elements. So I brought in a banner reminiscent of the current flag, used a more historic-looking font, kept the white field, and designed four icons to represent a broad range of Illinois (Lincoln, Sears Tower, a symbol representing rivers and lakes that are so much a part of life in our state, and agriculture). Hopefully these elements capture Illinois: our past, present, and future.



957

Relationship to Illinois

I am not a native of Illinois, but this design was codesigned with a native of Illinois expressing their dissatisfaction with the current flag of Illinois and random non-natives making ridiculous designs to replace it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois' diversity with a tricolor: Blue for the urban & industrious lakeside North; Yellow for the agricultural Central Illinois; and Green for the public lands & national parks of Southern Illinois. Of course, the format is that of the Centennial flag, with the stars colored blue and green for color balance.



958

Relationship to Illinois

Live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the one that we have is good



959

Relationship to Illinois

Live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Current flag is good



960

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois. I have also lived here my entire life, and I love Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have put many symbols of Illinois into my flag. The first of which is the white tail deer which I put due to it being the state animal. I also put the cardinal because it is the state bird. The white oak tree is there because it is the state tree. The corn fields are there because when you visit Illinois or if you live here you are surrounded by them. Finally I added the red for the flag to stand out a bit, and because I was unable to find state colors after my research.





961

Relationship to Illinois

live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

existing flag is ok



962

Relationship to Illinois

citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the eagle stand for freedom and the stars represent the chicago fire and the blue and red stand for the us flag.



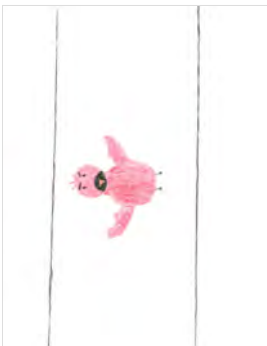
963

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The barn represents the farms in America, and the colors are similar to the one in the us flag.



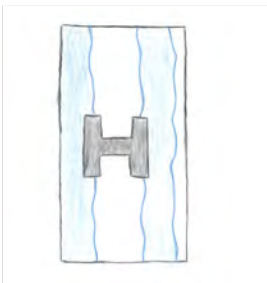
964

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The significance of the symbol on the flag lies in its representation of the cardinal, also known as the state bird of Illinois. The choice of this particular bird is intended to draw attention to America's issues with obesity.



965

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the two blue wiggley lines are supposed to represent the Chicago lake and lake Michigan because those are very famous places and the I in the middle of it represents Illinois



966

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

yellow stands for the corn, blue for the water



967

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

yellow stands for the corn, blue for the water



968

Relationship to Illinois

citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

there is a white star in the middle Which represents the one of the stars in the us flag there is the Illinois bird, Illinois flower, also includes former sun and illinois shield.



969

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Berwyn but I have been raised in Chicago my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put the colors of the shield on the eagle and then put the Chicago behind it.



970

Relationship to Illinois

A Citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is know for corn and the Shield Symbolizes the first 13 states.The bald eagle Symbolizes strength, courage, freedom and immortality



971

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has an eagle to symbolize freedom and it has 21 stripes to show that Illinois was the 21st state.



972

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a resedent. I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue reperesents the water and the eagle represents illinois. The white represents independence in America.



973

Relationship to Illinois

I live here for 14 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

so the blue strips mean vigilance and justice and eagle stands for freedom and the red stars is communism



974

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and wanted to submit a flag

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the 5 stars for the 5 hundred city's in illinois and the blue line is for the Missouri river and passes Illinois and the shield shows we cant be stopped. The red line is to show cross but the shield is in front of the red line to show we are stronger together.



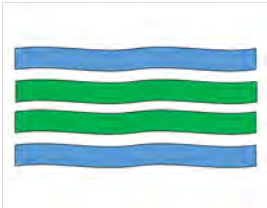
975

Relationship to Illinois

born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the eagle stands for freedom and the corn stands for Illinois having some of the biggest corn distributors.



976

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident for most of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top blue stripe represents Illinois' lakefront. The top green stripe represents Illinois' parks. The bottom green stripe represents Illinois' agriculture, its fertile fields. The bottom blue stripe represents Illinois' rivers.



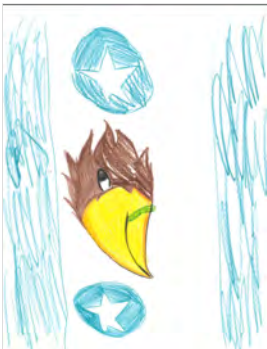
977

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident in Chicago, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew the deer which is the animal of Illinois. The star represents the whole city of Chicago and everyone in Chicago as one.



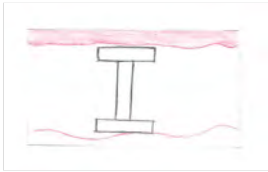
978

Relationship to Illinois

I live in illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Farming



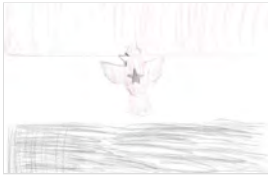
979

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The I represent Illinois



980

Relationship to Illinois

I live in the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has the national state bird in the middle to represent Illinois as a whole. While also using the colors red, white and black to leave it simple, The star in the birds chest is meant to represent the city of Chicago.



981

Relationship to Illinois

i live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I thought we could use the bald eagle in our flag because we its our country's bird



982

Relationship to Illinois

I live there

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put the constitution on my flag to represent the one who wrote it and because it would be a reminder that people have freedom because of the constitution and because they have that freedom they should honor it and it is also similar to the Chicago flag



983

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The purple flower is the common blue violet which is the national flower for Illinois. The butterfly is the the monarch butterfly which is the national butterfly for Illinois. The 21 ones stars represent Illinois being the 21st state.



984

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I did this because in the old Illinois flag there was an eagle and a shield

985

Relationship to Illinois

I had the privilege of experiencing Illinois life at its fullest. Running barefoot thru green grass, playing outdoors for hours on end with the neighborhood kids, riding my bike from one end of town to another with the wind in my hair and not a care in the world. This was life in 1958 small town southern Illinois, a time that shaped who I am today. Forever grateful to call you home, Illinois!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Outer ring of homes denote Suburban areas in our vast state102 Stars denote the 102 Counties in ILRing of Urban buildings denote the magnificent opportunities we have in our urban areas for business and growth. Circle with dashes denotes our Highway system through our great state. Circle of railroad tracks and the water waves denote our Bi-Ways. The three of them allow commerce to flow through, and to, our state. The farmland and the corn denote fertile soil & the grain we produce.



986

Relationship to Illinois

My family has lived in Illinois for generations, and I've spent most of my life here, exploring the state's diverse beauty and rich history. I've traveled across Illinois for leisure, visiting small towns, natural landmarks, and the capital multiple times. While I grew up in McHenry County, I've proudly called Chicago home for the past three years. This October, I'm getting married at the stunning Starved Rock State Park, a place that holds deep personal meaning for me. For me Illinois is home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design simplifies the key elements commonly associated with Illinois, making it distinct and easily recognizable among other state flags. It features 20 stars, with a 21st star representing Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union, a historical nod to its place in the country's growth. The blue in the top right symbolizes Lake Michigan's prominent position in the state, while the orange represents the golden prairies of Illinois, with a reference to the rising sun from the original seal



987

Relationship to Illinois

As a lifetime resident of Illinois and a career graphic designer, the opportunity to assist the Illinois Flag Commission with their redesign project is an honor, and a perfect way to give back to my community during semi-retirement. I attended Illinois Public Schools in Evanston and Elmhurst, along with graduating from College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn. Please feel free to view my website at www.ktgrafiks.com.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission 1 of 3Land of LincolnThe white silhouette of Abraham Lincoln on the left side overlays a field of blue that represents Lake Michigan – utilizing elements that are both historical and geographical. The usage of red stripes, white, and navy blue is a nod to our national union with the United States. The white star indicates our capital of Springfield. The font for “Land of Lincoln” is consistent with the current flag.



988

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission 2 of 3 Mile After Magnificent Mile The white lines convey roadways that link all walks of life together within our state. The "Mile After Magnificent Mile" motto and the white star bring emphasis to the landmark mile in Chicago and the entire great state of Illinois. Navy blue grounds the background and yellow/orange adds a bright, contemporary color which represents happiness, excitement, and enthusiasm. The fonts are consistent with the current flag.



989

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago for 18 years, my parents were born in Chicago and went to the University of Illinois, and my grandparents were raised in the state as well.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three blue lines in this flag symbolize not only the Chicago municipal symbol, but the three main bodies of water that compose Illinois' borders: Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and the Ohio River. The gold field symbolizes the corn that is grown across the state, the green field symbolizes the soybeans grown across the state (corn and soybeans being two of our largest outputs), and the silver field symbolizes both industry and Chicago, the nation's third-largest city.



990

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. Raised in Franklin Park, IL, I attended East Leyden High School and am currently graduating from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, majoring in Political Science. I was a semi-finalist in the Cook County Flag Contest, as well as a long-time and active member of my local community. I participated in various activities from volunteering to help senior citizens get rid of sensitive documents on Shred Day, to Lifeguarding at the Franklin Park pool.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has three horizontal bands: gold, blue, and white. It features 21 stars along the hoist — 10 in the upper gold band, 10 in the lower white band — symbolizing northern and southern states at Illinois' statehood in 1818. The blue band has a large white star for Illinois. A total of 21 stars marks Illinois as the 21st state. The design is inspired by Wallace Rice, creator of the Chicago city flag. Gold: Prosperity / fertile land, Blue: Loyalty, rivers, lakes, canals. White: Purity and hope.



991

Relationship to Illinois

Born here and always have lived here (and do not intend on leaving). I currently live in Chicago and intend to always stay in the area, since Illinois really does feel like "the middle of everything."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have interlaced the Chicago skyline with the rural crop of corn, bringing together the city and the farmland, the two polar opposites of Illinois. I have placed it upon the outline of the state, the border that holds us all together. And to pay tribute to our President and state slogan, Lincoln has been included.



992

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Iran, but my family and I moved here in 2006 when I was 9-years-old. Since then, I have been a proud Illinois resident, and have fallen in love with everything in our state...with the exception of our flag. We are one of the centers of American commerce, science, and culture, and the ideas and struggles for freedom and justice in Illinois have been instrumental in our journey towards building a more perfect union. I want our flag to reflect all of that.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue - The rivers and the lake
Gold - The prairies and farms
White - Peace, Liberty, and Justice
21 stars - The 21st State
Eight star points - the most important events in Illinois' history
900 - The Cahokia Settlement
1699 - First permanent European settlement in IL
1779 - DuSable's settlement
1818 - Statehood
1829 - IL is free state
1860 - Lincoln's election
1894 - The Pullman Strikes
2008 - Obama's election
Compass motif - IL's historical role as the center of the nation's commerce



993

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I have lived in Illinois all my life. I participated in the 2022 Illinois all state production of Shrek the musical. I love Illinois and am even thinking about staying close for college.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to represent Illinois. To me, a big part of Illinois is Chicago. I included the 4 Chicago stars on the circle as well as the original words of "union, state, national, sovereignty" on the circle. I put a cardinal because it's the state bird, and placed a white oak behind it because it's the Illinois state tree. I placed a star in the background also to sort of pay homage to the original flag which had a bright yellow star peaking over the horizon.



994

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995

Relationship to Illinois

I live there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

it says Illinois which means the state hear and the green symbolizes the corn we grow.



996

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and have lived in Illinois for most of my life. I attended Northwestern University and the University of Illinois Chicago, and have spent the past six years working for the Chicago Transit Authority. Illinois will always be my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two blue fields representing the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan are connected at the top (Illinois River, Chicago Sanitary & Ship Canal). There are 20 white stars with a yellow sun (21st State) that has 16 points (Abraham Lincoln, 16th President). In a green field (Prairie State) lies Monks Mound at the Cahokia Mounds site. A white skyscraper (global contributions to architecture) rises above the horizon. The negative space also forms the shape of a top hat (Land of Lincoln).



997



Relationship to Illinois

i have heard about the history of the current flag i am not a Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

blue means the lakes ponds and water sources white means peace and Purity there are 21 stars on the flag Illinois was the 21st state the stars in the middle is the Illinois star on the field of green it alludes to their nickname as the prairie state with the green represents the prairies the yellow means Illinois future growth the flag was done in canva by me

998



Relationship to Illinois

Born in Springfield, Illinois, and a graduate of Eastern Illinois University, I've spent 15 years teaching third grade before transitioning to an art position in Rochester, Illinois. My wife is from the Chicago suburbs, and we often drive across Illinois to visit family. My deep love for Illinois' landscapes and seasons—from farmer's fields to wooden strips and stunning skies—has profoundly influenced my artwork. I aim to share this simple, everyday beauty through my flag redesign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag blends Illinois' heritage with vibrant symbols and mirrors the diverse landscape. The yellow field represents the state's rich cornfields, while the green band signifies its forests and prairies. The blue top highlights key waterways like the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. The white triangle with 13 stars honors the original colonies and the 13th Amendment, reflecting President Lincoln's influence. This design balances Illinois' agricultural, natural, and industrial significance.

999



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago immediately after graduating college on the east coast. I was looking for a city to start my career in graphic design. I came here thinking this might be a good place to start and then I would move on. 20 years later, I'm still here and continue to grow both personally and professionally.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents 2 powerful symbols foundational to Illinois' history—it is both a stovepipe hat (a nod to Abraham Lincoln) and a skyscraper (home of the first skyscraper).

1000



Relationship to Illinois

I am a life long resident who lives with in McHenry Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Symbolism on the flag: The background is representing Chicago. There are 21 stars to represent that Illinois was the 21st state in 1818 for when Illinois became a state. A Northern Cardinal because it is the Illinois state bird and also because they look very cool. Finally, a feather to acknowledge the Native Americans that resided in Illinois before us. Side note the bird and feather is copyrighted meaning if this does go through it will have to be changed so it's not copyrighted.

1001



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, living here my entire life. I attended school in the state for most of my childhood and still reside here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is outlined with a Chicago-style strip of light blue, symbolizing the major waterways that shape Illinois. The three red, central stars represent the state's three distinctive regions—Northern, Central, and Southern—united as one, reflecting the state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union." Surrounding the stars are 21 smaller stars, symbolizing Illinois' 21st admission to the Union. The dark, electric blue honors the Shawnee people, highlighting Indigenous history in Illinois.

1002

Relationship to Illinois

I have been living here for a long time I was born here in the state of Illinois and moved when I was 2. I came back to Illinois at 6 years old and I have been living here ever since. I have seen mostly everything here that has resembled Illinois like the blue sky to the buildings of the cities and the snow of the winter and know that the people are nice in Illinois. By [REDACTED]

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is a simplified version of the flag so people can recognize it from far away and even a kid can draw it and not lose the meaning of the original Illinois flag. I have made it up from my head and drew it on the laptop when I was done.



1003

Relationship to Illinois

I'm the Grandparent of minor child.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is representing all the monuments that Illinois represents.



1004

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Downers Grove, grew up in Wheaton, and now reside in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue lines around the border of the flag represent the water that bounds the state: the Mississippi River on the west, Ohio River on the south, Wabash River on the southeast, Lake Michigan on the northeast. The white 18-pointed star in the center represents the year of statehood. The green represents the rich agriculture of the state, and the gold represents its bounty, such as wheat and corn.



1005

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the Chicagoland area, where I forged lifelong friendships. My parents, both worked in Chicago and came from immigrant families. The city and the state of Illinois meant growth and opportunity. I took that opportunity as well and went to college at the University of Illinois to study architecture. The city and state's architecture were what influenced me to pursue my passion. I wanted to redirect the same passion that was instilled into me growing up into the redesign of this flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green is the prairie grass of our southern & central regions (Prairie State). Blue is water (Rivers & Great Lakes). The sun & "feathers" harks back to the original flag. Feathers symbolize the native heritage of our state and the many tribes that named it home. The shape also evokes the skyline of Chicago, drawing from its art-deco architecture in perspective & form and echos the silhouette of our state grass (big bluestem). They rise against the blue sky and stars, painting a hopeful future.



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Office of the Secretary of State

ilsos.gov

Illinois Flag Commission Submissions

1007

Relationship to Illinois

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1008

Relationship to Illinois

Designer: Matthew D. Whitson I was born and raised in Illinois. After serving 6 years in the USMC, I immediately returned to Illinois. I have been an Illinois state worker for over 30 years. I am currently a volunteer docent at the National Park Service Abraham Lincoln Home National Historic Site since 2016. Illustrator: Jasmine Leung Former NPS Park Ranger at the National Park Service Abraham Lincoln Home National Historic Site.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The "I" Illinois Tricolor Flag. The three sections of the flag represents the three geographical regions of Illinois: Cook County, the Collar Counties, and Downstate. The Orange, White, and Black represent the Monarch Butterfly, which creates an "I" in the tricolor.

1009

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home since I was three years old. I am now 22 years old, and the beauty it provides never fails to amaze me. Not only is Illinois filled with rich history and an abundance of natural resources, but it is a place I call home. Immigration has always been an issue close to my heart having lived in a Hispanic community. There is no state that provides a home to them like Illinois. The healthcare, education, and so much more does not see status. It treats everyone like humans.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green and blue lines paired together make up the abbreviation "IL." The green line represents the richness of natural resources Illinois offers. The blue line represents the bodies of water that pass through Illinois, specifically Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and the Illinois River. The orange rectangle represents the prairies. Each star represents a major city that has played a key role in the state's development. I wrote a more detailed explanation. I can send it upon request.



1010

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here for all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The outline is of the state. The blue is for is for all of the clear blue skys we have. The yellow circle is for the crops we grow. 1818 because it became the 21 state of the union. 1868 for the seal



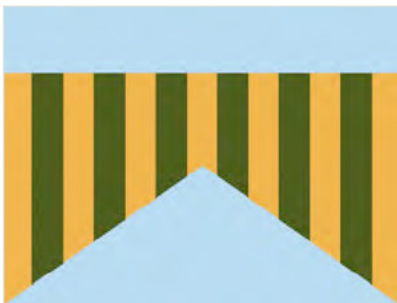
1011

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here for 70 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I do not want to change the flag.



1012

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I enjoyed growing up in the suburbs of Chicago. I went Illinois State University to become a teacher. I meat my spouse in college and many life long friends. I loved my time at ISU. I then found teaching jobs in both Indiana and Colorado. I moved back to Illinois and settled in Oak Lawn. I love taking the orange line into the city and meeting friends, heading to forest preserves with my dog, and going to my local library every week. I am so proud to be from IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

13 columns represent the approximate 13 tribes that originated on this land referred to as the Illinois Confederation (illiniwek /illini) that lived in the Mississippi river valley. The blue rectangle shows a sky above and the triangle below the river. This color is also a reference to the Chicago flag. The yellow is to represent a prairie yellow color and the green in contrast the trees and grasses found abundantly in the state. The natural beauty of the state is a point of pride.

1013

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I enjoyed growing up in the suburbs of Chicago. I went to Illinois State University to become a teacher. I met my spouse in college and many life long friends. I loved my time at ISU. I then found teaching jobs in both Indiana and Colorado. I moved back to Illinois and settled in Oak Lawn. I love taking the orange line into the city and meeting friends, heading to forest preserves with my dog, and going to my local library every week. I am so proud to be from IL.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

13 stars in the shield represent the approximate 13 tribes that originated on this land referred to as the Illinois Confederation (Illini) that lived in the Mississippi river valley. Blue rectangle shows a sky above and the triangle below a river. The color is also a nod to the Chicago flag. Yellow is to represent a prairie yellow color. The natural beauty of the state is what I think of foremost and am most proud of. The 8 stars in the corners and 13 stars add up to 21, state added to the union

1014

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I enjoyed growing up in the suburbs of Chicago. I went to Illinois State University to become a teacher. I met my spouse in college and many life long friends. I loved my time at ISU. I then found teaching jobs in both Indiana and Colorado. I moved back to Illinois and settled in Oak Lawn. I love taking the orange line into the city and meeting friends, heading to forest preserves with my dog, and going to my local library every week. I am so proud to be from IL.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

13 stars around the circle represent the approximate 13 tribes that originated on this land referred to as Illinois Confederation (Illiniwek/ Illini). Blue rectangle shows a sky above and the triangle below a river. This color is also a nod to the Chicago flag. Yellow is to represent a prairie yellow color and the green in contrast the trees and grasses found abundantly in the state. The natural beauty of the state is a point of pride. All the stars add up to 21, state added to the union.

1015

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois for my whole life, living in the suburbs of Chicago. I have been to many cities and areas in the state. I am currently a student at Roosevelt University and am working for a degree in Graphic Design.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red, white, and blue represent being part of the U.S.A. The orange represents being named the "Prairie State" and agricultural aspects in Illinois. The red sun is for Illinois always moving forward. The blue represents Lake Michigan, Mississippi River, and other bodies of water. There are 21 stars with 3 of the stars being larger. This represents being the 21st state and the 3 larger stars to represent 3 presidents elected from Illinois, Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, and Barack Obama.



1016

Relationship to Illinois

I am 20 years old and have been a resident of Illinois for my whole life. I have lived in the Chicago suburbs and traveled throughout the state. I am currently a student at Roosevelt University and am working for a degree in Graphic Design

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red, white, and blue represent being part of the U.S.A. The orange represents being named the "Prairie State" and agricultural aspects in Illinois. The red sun is for Illinois always moving forward. The blue represents Lake Michigan, Mississippi River, and other bodies of water. There are 21 stars with 3 of the stars being larger. This represents being the 21st state and the 3 larger stars to represent 3 presidents elected from Illinois, Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, and Barack Obama.



1017



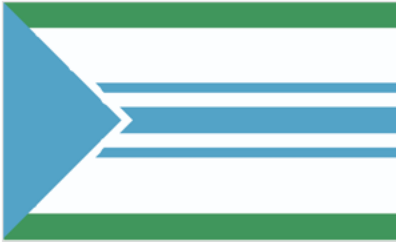
Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in IL, College student at Roosevelt University

Explain the meaning behind your flag

- 21 stars for Illinois as the 21st state. 3 central stars for Lincoln, Grant, and Obama, 3 Presidents from IL. - The top half is blue for Northern IL, Lake Michigan, and the waterways crucial to Chicago's growth and the state's economy. - The bottom half is green, symbolizing Southern IL's prairies and farmlands, reflecting IL's nickname as the 'Prairie State'.

1018



Relationship to Illinois

Resident, college student at Harper College

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue triangle on the left represents Lake Michigan. The three blue lines represent rivers and the three presidents born in Illinois. The green lines represent flatlands, grasslands, farming and prairie. The white lines symbolize cleanliness and purity and connect with the current Illinois flag. One blue line is bigger than the others and is done as my personal design choice. The blue triangle is located on the left and there is some space with the three blue lines for flag design purposes.

1019

Relationship to Illinois

I am 20 years old and I have been a resident of Illinois for my whole life. I have lived in the Chicago suburbs and have traveled throughout the state to see other cities and areas in the state. I am currently a student at Roosevelt University and am pursuing a Graphic Design Degree.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red, white, and blue represent being part of the U.S.A. The orange represents being named the “Prairie State” and agricultural aspects in Illinois. The red sun is for Illinois always moving forward. The blue represents Lake Michigan, Mississippi River, and other bodies of water. There are 21 stars with 3 of the stars being larger. This represents being the 21st state and the 3 larger stars to represent 3 presidents elected from Illinois, Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, and Barack Obama.

1020

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois during Covid during 2020 to help a family member with their business. I am not originally from Illinois, but I am a US Air Force veteran currently attending Roosevelt University.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

IL as the state's initials being blocky letters is used as the cornerstone of the design. Illinois is a hub state for travel and trade, the colors reflect this with the blue representing both the sky for air travel and the water from the lakes and rivers. The top right square is also a reference to Lake Michigan's position to the state. The silver reflects both a coin for commerce and the roads and buildings of the state, with the L shape both looking like a cityscape and intersection.

1021

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois, and a student at Roosevelt University in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 stars represent the presidents from IL; the biggest star calls out to Abraham Lincoln. Stars have 7 points and in total make up 21, signifying IL becoming the 21st state. Golden color represents IL agriculture. White symbolizes strength and determination. The stylized antler represents the rivers in IL. Deer antler references IL's Native American roots. 5 points means 5 Native tribes. Green background makes up most of the design and references how 80% of IL is a prairie.



1022

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my design for this flag, I incorporated many elements that represent the state of Illinois. The line going cross from left to right has two colors. The navy blue represents the rivers/lakes. The negative or white space around the blue strip represents Illinois railroads and transportation. I also added the green, which covers the majority of the flag. The meaning behind the green represents the prairies and agriculture of Illinois. The three stars are symbols representing the IL presidents.



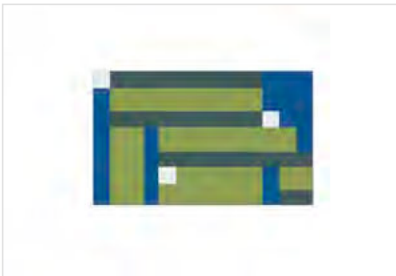
1023

Relationship to Illinois

Resident and student of IL at Harper College

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Frank Lloyd Wright's iconic prairie style, combining Chicago as an architectural hub while also emphasizing the beauty of IL from a bird's eye view. The vertical blue lines are major bodies of water, while the deep horizontal turquoise is our roadways. The white squares are our new beginnings of historical cities in their respective areas. Our agricultural prairie land is green; the plots represent the five major tribes.



1024

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my design for this flag, I incorporated many elements that represent the state of Illinois. The line going cross from left to right has two colors. The navy blue represents the rivers/lakes. The negative or white space around the blue strip represents Illinois railroads and transportation. I also added the green, which covers the majority of the flag. The meaning behind the green represents the prairies and agriculture of Illinois. The three stars are symbols representing the IL presidents.



1025

Relationship to Illinois

Resident, college student at Harper College

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue triangle represents Lake Michigan. The three blue lines represent rivers along with the three presidents born in Illinois. The green lines represent flatlands, grasslands, farming, and prairies. The white lines symbolize cleanliness and purity and connects with the current Illinois flag. One blue line is bigger than the others and is done as my personal design choice. The blue triangle is located on the left and there is some space with the three blue lines for flag design purposes.



1026

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED], Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The American Flag, love and donuts.





1027

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I like flags.



1028

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Colors representing Girl Scouts.



1029

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Pretty and yummy donuts.



1030

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - All things that are happy.



1031

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Used colors that were pretty.



1032

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Went with these colors because they are pretty.



1033

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Hearts and donuts and a purple robot.



1034

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Chose colors of the sunset.



1035

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Donuts and the love I have for my state.



1036

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I picked hearts because everyone should love each other.



1037

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The light represents the hope that there is always light.



1038

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Rainbow flag to represent happiness.



1039

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - On behalf of [REDACTED] Girl Scout Daisy Troop 3725, resident of McHenry County

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I went with hearts because people should love each other.

1040

Relationship to Illinois

Resident and student at Roosevelt University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors Red Cardinal bird and strength Blue for bodies of water White for new beginnings the snow and equality Symbols Red feather for the Cardinal which is the state bird Midrib for Route 66 Red tip of feather is a tribute to Lincoln emancipation proclamation ridges on feather signifies the 5 tribes in Illinois Stars tribute three stars for the three presidents from Illinois three 7 pointed stars for being the 21st state 3 bodies of water Lake Michigan Mississippi river Ohio River



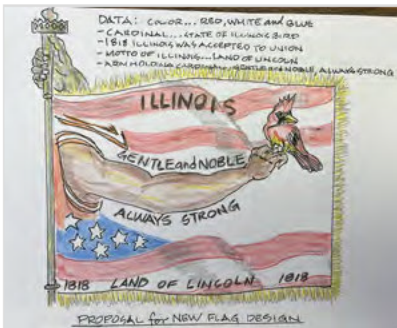
1041

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Color = red, white and blue. Cardinal is the state of Illinois bird. 1818 is when Illinois was accepted into the union. Motto of Illinois is Land of Lincoln. Arm holding cardinal, gentle and noble, always strong.



1042

Relationship to Illinois

Resident and student at Roosevelt University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors Old glory blue for the bodies of water and a nod to the country and bodies of water
Old glory red nod to the country and for strength
White for equality the snow and new beginnings
Symbols White Oak leaf is the national and State tree
The left side of leaf symbolizes the crown of Ceres for commerce
The right side of the leaf tribute to Lincoln with an outline of his face
Midrib symbolized Route 66
3 stars for Pres. from IL
7 pointed stars for being the 21st state
3 bodies of water



1043

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Flag Proposal of Illinois is representing the prairies with the green, Wheat fields with the yellow, The red stars for Chicago, Blue for the peaceful water and skies, And the date of 1818 for the founders of Illinois going westward.



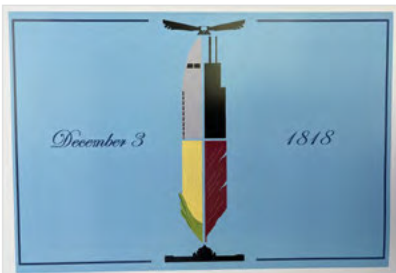
1044

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Born at St. Joseph's Hospital on Lake Shore Dr. in Chicago and grew up in NW suburbs. I attended U of I Champaign and earned a degree in News Editorial Journalism. As much as I love our state, I have felt for some time that the flag could use an upgrade. I put this idea together a year prior to submissions being requested. I am not a graphic designer, but I am proud of the basic concept.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Flag features "I" made up of several parts. Top left for transportation - O'Hare and Midway. Top right for innovation, world's first skyscraper. Bottom left for agriculture, IL leads nation in soybean & pumpkin production, 2nd largest corn grower. Bottom right for Native Americans. Top/bottom relate to state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union." Top is bald eagle, symbol of USA. Bottom is State Capitol. Date of statehood on left & right. Light blue for Miss. River & Lake Michigan.





1045

Relationship to Illinois

Jiva Bansal is born in Illinois and stayed in this state all her life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I stands Illini and Blue stand for sky. Heart represent that Illinois is the best state and my heart lies with it. Corn represents the farmers. Eagle represents the natives. Red background looks cool.



1046

Relationship to Illinois

I have spent the entirety of my life treading the terrain of Illinois. My youth was spent in the southwest suburbs of Chicago with frequent trips to Galena on the Mississippi or down to Starved Rock for camping trips, while my young adulthood was spent on Chicago's south and west sides. I now works at my high school alma mater named after another Illinois native, Carl Sandburg. It is my belief that nothing quite captures the heart of Illinois as his "Harvest Poems." In short, Illinois is home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The vertical orientation allows the blue to symbolize the Mississippi and Lake Michigan. Red, White, and Blue tie us to the nation, whereas gold is the most commonly seen color throughout the Prairie State. Four stars symbolize our most produced farm exports: soy, pumpkin, wheat, and corn, and hearkens to Chicago's flag. The middle portion is a beadwork pattern of the Potawatomi tribe who called this land home first. The oak's acorn is packed with potential, focused on what it will become.

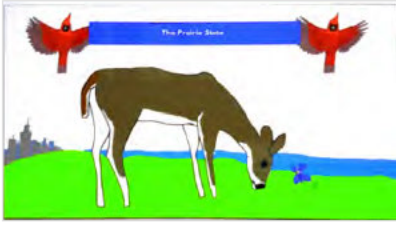
1047

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois, and most of my relatives live in Illinois, too.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There is a White Tailed Deer on the flag, because it is the Illinois state animal. There is a Common Blue Violet at the bottom of the flag, because it is the Illinois state flower. There are two cardinal birds, because they are Illinois's state bird. The two cardinals are holding up a banner that says "The Prairie State". "The Prairie State" is Illinois's nickname. In the background of the flag there is Prairie land, the city of Chicago, and Lake Michigan.



1048

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago, Illinois for nine years, and love living in this state. In addition to the bustle of Chicago and its vibrant music, food and festival scenes, I appreciate the natural beauty and resources that Illinois has to offer. I enjoy hiking at Starved Rock state park and canoeing on the Fox River.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag honors the natural resources of Illinois and commemorates its status as the 21st state of the United States. The green field of color represents the farmland and state parks of Illinois, while the blue and white in the upper right corner represent Lake Michigan carving out the upper right corner of the state. There is a ring of 20 stars, encircling a larger star, which represents Illinois as the 21st state.



1049

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago, Illinois for nine years, and love living in this state. In addition to bustle of Chicago and its vibrant music, food and festival scenes, I appreciate the natural beauty and resources that Illinois has to offer. I enjoy hiking at Starved Rock state park and canoeing on the Fox River.

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1050

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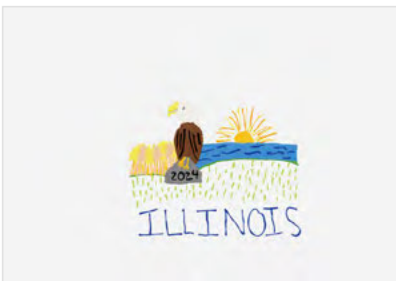
1051

Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raised in Illinois, and still live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There is a lake because of Lake Michigan. Corn fields because of our agricultural production. Eagle because we are part of the United States.



1052

Relationship to Illinois

I'm an artist of this country and I've been all over it loving every moment. I am from Chicago and lived in Illinois the majority of my life. I would like to thank you for your consideration for the state flag. I am a self-made man that is getting into art contests and this one is my first, so fingers crossed.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The beautiful lake is the blue. The sweet beautiful corn is the yellow and the violet line is for our state flower. We're the 21st state which is the number of stars and the red represents the cardinal, my sweet home. I love trees they mean life, wind, and unity by the roots. Our tree is the beautiful oak tree which pulls everything together on my flag. I want people to know that we were part of the Union, so the stars are in a circle.

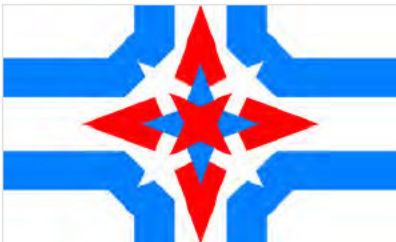
1053

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Aurora, IL and lived in Illinois for over 33 years. I attended Southern Illinois University Carbondale where I earned my Bachelor's degree.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design is meant to represent the heart of the Midwest, that Illinois is the hub, or crossroads of America. The crossroads are represented with the outer corner blue bars while in the center are 4 nested stars, all with 4 points. These nested stars are meant to represent a prairie flower because Illinois is the prairie state. The total number of star points add up to 16, an homage to the 16th president Abraham Lincoln along with the number of windows around the Springfield capitol rotunda.





1054

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

75 percent of flag is green to represent farmland in Illinois taking up 75 percent of the state Yellow represents Illinois as the prairie state Simplistic design of a Native American feather in the middle with sixteen black indents of the feather to represent Abraham Lincoln 21 stars because Illinois was the 21st state 12 sided stars for the 12 smaller tribes that made the Illiniwek tribe Became 21st state on 12/3/1818 combine columns of stars together in different ways to get 12, 3, and 18



1055

Relationship to Illinois

Mother

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green portrays the prairie of Illinois and its community. The yellow depicts the corn and its value economically. The light blue portrays the environment from the three great rivers, which are the Mississippi, the Ohio, and the Wabash River to the sky and their beauty. This shows how Illinois is united. The red stars are also major. They and the light blue circle show the unity in Illinois. The points on the stars account for twenty-one, which stands for Illinois being the 21st state.



1056

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a lifelong Illinois resident; being born at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge. I have resided in Arlington Heights, Schaumburg, Palatine, and Gilberts. I am a civil servant; being a full time sworn firefighter/paramedic for the Village of River Forest since 2017.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Northern Cardinal is the state bird of Illinois. I chose this design as it is a simpler design than the current flag; a good contrast of red-on-white; and a stark reminder, without doubt, that all who view this flag flying are in the great state of Illinois.

1057

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is that I've lived here my whole life.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue in my flag represents vigilance,perseverance and justice.The Northern Cardinal on my flag (also Illinois's state bird) represents vitality,renewal and strength.The common blue violet (also Illinois state flower) represents faith,affection,intuition and love.Now these are just some of the many examples of the things on my flag,and things that represent our beautiful state of Illinois.That is the meaning of my flag.

1058

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in this state from Metamora, near Peoria. I now reside in Bloomington and have spent a majority of my life in Central Illinois. I grew up learning about Lincoln and many other events that took place within our state. I've also done research about the different native plants and animals around here and have wanted to embrace the history and culture that I have come to know.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is meant to represent the state of Illinois in multiple ways. The blue line that cuts through the middle of the flag is the Mississippi River, just as it cuts from one corner of the state to the other. The river is a major source of trade and commerce which was foundational to many of our largest cities. The green sections are symbolic of the agricultural foundation our state has. There are 12 "fields" on the flag in reference to the twelve tribes of the Illiniwek.

1059

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois entire life. I am from Peoria Illinois, this is where my entire family resides. Last year in Peoria they chose to adopt a new flag. I entered one submission and was happy to be a finalist. The day they revealed their selection as the new Peoria County flag and I found out it was my design, I was filled with the utmost excitement to leave my mark on the place I call home. I would love to do the same for the entire state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is the 21st state. The flag design features 3 stripes and a 7 pointed star reflecting this. The yellow represents our flowing agriculture, the white represents our flowing industry and the blue represents all of us united. The flow is upstream showing the progress in our state.

1060

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to create a modern version of the beautiful flag we already have.



1061

Relationship to Illinois

After relocating from NYC to Illinois when my job became remote during the pandemic, I chose Illinois for its unique balance of urban life and natural beauty. Living downtown, I've come to appreciate the architecture, the changing seasons, and frequent visits to the lake, whether liquid or solid. The move has been a great change, and I'm excited to explore more of the state in the future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the new design, I incorporated colors from the current flag and drew inspiration from the iconic Chicago flag, while following NAVA's principles. The single star, inspired by the horizon, represents my love for Chicago and Lake Michigan. The design is simple, using bold shapes and minimal colors for a modern, recognizable look that reflects both the city's and the state's natural beauty.



1062

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life. I currently live in Lake County and recently went on a road trip from Chicago to Carbondale back in April.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The center of the flag features Monks Mound, the largest mound in Cahokia. Cahokia is the largest archaeological site north of Mesoamerica, located across the river from St. Louis. The color green represents the prairies of Illinois, while the gold represents our agricultural industry. The two blue stripes represent the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers, forming a cross in reference to Illinois as a crossroads of transit and trade. The white field pays homage to the current flag of Illinois.



1063

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life. I currently live in Lake County and recently went on a road trip from Chicago to Carbondale back in April.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red and white star in the center of the flag references the flag of Springfield, which features a similar star, albeit with reversed colors. The gold wheel behind the star symbolizes Illinois as a hub of transit (both for interstate and rail) and its color pays homage to agriculture and industry. The blue bands flanking either side of flag references the water both surrounding and within the state, namely the Illinois, Mississippi and Wabash Rivers as well as Lake Michigan.



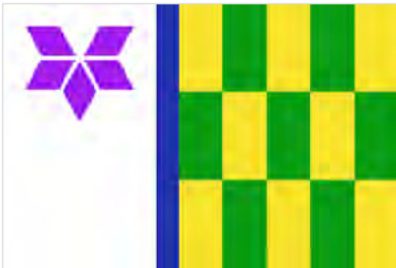
1064

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life. I currently live in Lake County and recently went on a road trip from Chicago to Carbondale back in April.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A blue stripe divides the flag in two, much like the Illinois River divides the state. A stylized violet is placed in the upper left. The fly features a rectangular checkboard of green and gold, meant to resemble the many rectangular parcels that our rural areas are divided into. The gold is typical of agriculture, while the green represents Illinois as the Prairie State, as well as our other natural areas. The white field on the hoist side pays homage to the current state flag.





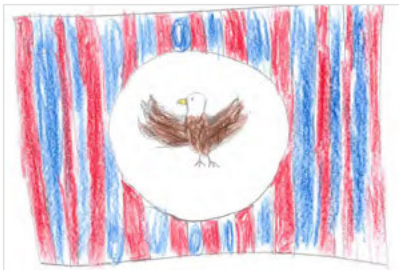
1065

Relationship to Illinois

I live there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the same meaning of the original Illinois flag but it just has a different design.



1066

Relationship to Illinois

I'm from the Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has 21 stripes because Illinois is the 21th state and the eagle represents freedom.



1067

Relationship to Illinois

My brother lived in Chicago for 10 years so I visited quite a bit, but other than that not a close connection.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Staring the design with the Illinois Centennial flag honors the state's history. The oak tree symbolizes endurance, resilience, and longevity, reflecting Illinoisan spirit. The acorn represents potential and new beginnings, like the young pioneers who settled here. Three symbolizes the state's role connecting the East, West, and South. The blue stripe signifies the four major rivers, the blue circle Lake Michigan, and yellow for prairies and agriculture (soybeans, yellow corn).



1068

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green for the prairies, yellow for the farm fields, the red stars for Chicago, and the blue for the water and skies of Illinois.



1069

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green for the prairies, Yellow for the wheat fields, The 4 Red Stars for Chicago, Blue for the water and skies of Illinois, and the date of 1818 for the founding of Illinois.



1070

Relationship to Illinois

Im a new resident that has visited for years and finally mad the move to the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white represents all Illinoisans of the state and a nod to the original state flag. The gold stripe represents the "I" in Illinois and the color is for the fertile agricultural land of Illinois. The blue represents all the rivers and canals in Illinois and Lake Michigan connecting the state. And the star represents Chicago at the shores of Lake Michigan, in the northeast corner of the state, as a hub for the state of Illinois.

1071

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised and still currently live in the fantastic state of Illinois. As the son of a 4th generation Illinois farmer, the rich soil of this state practically runs in my veins. It is a blessing to live somewhere that you can witness the strong agricultural foundation of a state at work along with having access to a truly world-class city such as Chicago, along with the hundreds of other vibrant communities and countless beautiful natural areas scattered across the landscape.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is inspired by Wallace Rice's centennial flag for IL. The green celebrates our agricultural roots & protected natural areas. The 4 tiers in the lower right honor Monks Mound in Cahokia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The tiers in the upper left depict the locks of the Illinois Waterway, while the blue venerates all our waterways. The rectangle honors the first skyscraper & all that we've built. The large 21st star represents the people of IL. Together, they form an "i" for Illinois.

1072

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -My family has lived in Illinois for generations & I've spent most of my life here, exploring the state's diverse beauty & rich history. I've traveled across Illinois for leisure, visiting small towns, natural landmarks, & the capital multiple times. I grew up in McHenry County, but I've proudly called Chicago home for the past three years. This October, I'm getting married at the stunning Starved Rock State Park, a place that holds deep personal meaning for me. For me Illinois is home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-It simplifies the key elements commonly assoc. with Illinois, making it distinct & easily recognizable among other state flags. It features 20 stars, with a 21st star representing Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union, a historical nod to its place in the country's growth. The blue symbolizes Lake Michigan, while the orange represents the golden prairies of Illinois, with a reference to the rising sun from the original seal.

1073

Relationship to Illinois

My brother lived there for 10 years so I am very familiar with it, but other than that no connection.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Using the Illinois Centennial flag as a starting point honors the state's history. The white oak tree symbolizes endurance, resilience, and longevity, reflecting the spirit of Illinoisians. Three leaves symbolize the state's role connecting the East, West, and South. The blue stripe signifies four major rivers, the blue circle Lake Michigan, and yellow for prairies and agriculture.



1074

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. My wife is from Decatur. I grew up in Chicago's southwest suburbs in a house my dad built and still lives in today with my mom. He was born and raised just a few blocks away. My grandparents lived in Chicago, after their parents immigrated. Growing up, we played in a 90-acre parcel that was never developed. It turned out to be a rare untouched section of native Illinois, now called Sundrop Prairie. That experience drove my interest in the history of the land.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star is its people. 102 stars each county. The ribbon crossing the flag are rivers. Color violet-state flower. The longer one is the Illinois River and Des Plaines River. The small triangle is the Chicago River. Where they do not connect is the Chicago Portage. Explorers returned to Lake Michigan on this route with help from native tribes. This portage allowed Illinois and the nation to develop into what it is today. The gold is the prairie. It has a Calumet shared by the Illinois tribes.



1075

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. My wife is from Decatur. I grew up in Chicago's southwest suburbs in a house my dad built and still lives in today with my mom. He was born and raised just a few blocks away. My grandparents lived in Chicago, after their parents immigrated. Growing up, we played in a 90-acre parcel that was never developed. It turned out to be a rare untouched section of native Illinois, now called Sundrop Prairie. That experience drove my interest in the history of the land.



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1076

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1077



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident and proud to serve Illinoisans in my job as a Librarian at the University of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The navy and light blue highlight Illinois deep connection with bodies of waters like Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, with wavy line evoking the latter. The yellow wheat highlights rural Illinois' rich agricultural history.

1078



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. My wife is from Decatur. I grew up in Chicago's southwest suburbs in a house my dad built and still lives in today with my mom. He was born and raised just a few blocks away. My grandparents lived in Chicago, after their parents immigrated. Growing up, we played in a 90-acre parcel that was never developed. It turned out to be a rare untouched section of native Illinois, now called Sundrop Prairie. That experience drove my interest in the history of the land.

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1079

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. My wife is from Decatur. I grew up in Chicago's southwest suburbs in a house my dad built and still lives in today with my mom. He was born and raised just a few blocks away. My grandparents lived in Chicago, after their parents immigrated. Growing up, we played in a 90-acre parcel that was never developed. It turned out to be a rare untouched section of native Illinois, now called Sundrop Prairie. That experience drove my interest in the history of the land.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star is for its people. 102 stars for each county. The ribbon crossing the flag are rivers. Color violet - state flower. The longer one is the Illinois River and Des Plaines River. The small triangle is the Chicago River. Where they do not connect is the Chicago Portage. Marquette and Joliet returned to Lake Michigan via this route with help from native tribes. This portage allowed Illinois and the nation to develop into what it is today. The gold represents the prairie and its bounty.

1080

Relationship to Illinois

I am a long-term resident of Illinois (50 plus years). I am currently retired but once worked for the state. My last job was with the Federal government.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"The flag alludes to the state motto, : 'Land of Lincoln' and all he represented. The blue (azure) field refers to Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River and the Illinois River - that surrounds the state. The Lincoln portrait (sable) is taken from clip art on a public site but any rendition would suffice.



1081

Relationship to Illinois

I recently relocated to Chicago in July 2024 from the east coast as my wife, an Illinois-born and educated native, started a new role at UChicago. I have immediately fallen in love with this state. Illinois is beautiful and has such rich history, and we plan to be here for the long term!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Star –from the US flag, separate pieces repr. Native American tribes that made up original population
20 Lines –prior US states, Illinois was 21st
Radiating Lines – repr. historical significance as transportation hub/destination for opportunity: Route 66, railroads, ports, Great Migration
Dark Blue –symbolizes vast plains/The Prairie State
Light Blue –repr. importance of lake/rivers to IL's prosperity & beauty
Sun Rise – repr. hope for IL's future, connects to rising sun on current flag/seal

1082

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. Raised in Franklin Park, IL, I attended East Leyden High School and am currently graduating from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, majoring in Political Science. I was a semi-finalist in the Cook County Flag Contest, as well as a long-time and active member of my local community. I participated in various activities from volunteering to help senior citizens get rid of sensitive documents on Shred Day, to Lifeguarding at the Franklin Park pool



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has three horizontal bands: white, blue, and white, with green strips above and below the blue band. It features 21 stars along the hoist: 10 in the upper and lower white bands symbolizing northern and southern states at Illinois' statehood in 1818. A large white star in the blue band represents Illinois. The 21 stars mark Illinois as the 21st state. Inspired by Wallace Rice's Chicago flag design, green symbolizes nature, blue stands for loyalty and waterways, and white represents purity.

1083

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the great State of Illinois and am proud to once again call it home after many years living in other parts of our country.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag echoes the Centennial Flag. The white background is divided into three parts representing Northern, Central, and Southern Illinois. Two blue stripes represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River to the east and west. Eighteen five-pointed stars reflect on our statehood in 1818. A large twelve-pointed star adorns the center rising like the sun over the plains and representing the twelve tribes of the Illinois Confederacy. There are 102 total star points for the 102 counties.



1084

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the great State of Illinois and am proud to once again call it home after many years living in other parts of our country.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two blue stripes represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River to the east and west. Green and white stripes lay between them representing the fertile lands and purity of the winter snows in our state. A large twelve-pointed star adorns the center, rising like the sun over the plains, and representing the twelve tribes of the Illinois Confederacy. Eighteen five-pointed stars reflect on our statehood in 1818. There are 102 total star points for the 102 counties.



1085

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. Raised in Franklin Park, IL, I attended East Leyden High School and am currently graduating from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, majoring in Political Science. I was a semi-finalist in the Cook County Flag Contest, as well as a long-time and active member of my local community. I participated in various activities from volunteering to help senior citizens get rid of sensitive documents on Shred Day, to Lifeguarding at the Franklin Park pool



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has three horizontal bands: blue, white, and gold, with 21 stars — 10 in the upper blue and lower gold bands — representing northern and southern states at Illinois' statehood in 1818. A large blue star in the white band represents Illinois as the 21st state. Inspired by Wallace Rice's Chicago flag, gold symbolizes prosperity, blue represents the state's waterways and connectivity, and white stands for peace and unity, reflecting Illinois' commitment to harmony and commerce.

1086

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. Most of my family grew up here. I've lived in the Chicago suburbs my whole life, but I've had family that has been born and raised in Chicago proper, as well as relatives that are from Central Illinois and grew up in Livingston County. I've seen everything our state has to offer, bustling city life, quiet suburbs, and peaceful farmland. I think we are one of the most well rounded states in the union.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Each star represents a region, Northern, Central, and Southern Illinois. The stars are positioned to represent large metropolitan areas in the state. The top right is the Chicago area, the center star is Peoria/Bloomington, and the bottom star is the St. Louis metropolitan area that is partly in the state. The color blue represents the water of our state, Lake Michigan, and the Illinois, Mississippi and Ohio Rivers. Green represents our prairies, and orange represents the Rust Belt.

1087

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the small northern town of Zion, Illinois, and have lived here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design features 18 stars symbolizing Illinois' founding in 1818. The gold color represents the state's cash crop, corn, with 2023 profits contributing to \$151 billion to the US economy. The crimson blue background and white stars honor the U.S. flag and those who died for our freedom.



1088

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted a striking image and colors that pull from what you see traveling across Illinois - the huge blue sky, the bright green of the plant life that grows so richly and readily here, the yellow-gold of the bright sun and corn tassels. The flickers of rows of corn as you pass are echoed in the rays of the sun. The darker blue line represents the important rivers - primarily the king of all rivers, the Mississippi.



1089

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in the Chicagoland area my entire life. My extended family has also been in Illinois for their lifetimes, since coming over from Ireland and Sicily generations ago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have included the Illinois state bird, the cardinal, which is carrying a banner illustrating the year Illinois officially became the 21st state (1818). I drew a portrait of President Abraham Lincoln, as Illinois was his home state and also accomplished and overcame several feats during his time in office, most notably abolishing slavery. The blue within the Illinois outline represents the state's prairie grass, big bluestem, as Illinois is known as the Prairie State.

ILLINOIS



1090

Relationship to Illinois

Third-generation lifelong resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Midnight blue hoist representing the waters of the State (Lake Michigan and various rivers) In the hoist is an outline of the state, surrounded by 21 (21st state) six-pointed stars (representing Chicago and other cities) and with a profile of Abraham Lincoln (as Illinois is the "Land of Lincoln") The three stripes in the fly represent the prairie (of the "Prairie State"); its produce by the green and gold, and the bright sky above.



1091

Relationship to Illinois

Third generation lifelong resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Twenty-one stars (representing the 21st state) form the outline of Illinois, framing the visage of Abraham Lincoln (IL as Land of Lincoln). Gold field for the prairie (IL as Prairie State), as well as the profit of industry and commerce. Green interior border representing crops as well as money. Blue border representing the rivers and lake that comprise the border and lifeblood of the state.



1092

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in the Chicagoland area my entire life. My extended family has also been in Illinois for their lifetimes, since coming over from Ireland and Sicily generations ago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

(Prairie State) I have included the state's Prairie Grass – big bluestem, Bird – cardinal (carrying a banner with the year Illinois became a state (1818)), Reptile – painted turtle, Insect – monarch butterfly, Animal – white-tailed deer & Flower – violet (there are 21 violets to signify it was the 21st state). The yellow of the sun represents the State Amphibian – eastern tiger salamander, and the blue the many waterways within the state, most notably the Mississippi River & Lake Michigan.



1093

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the small northern town of Zion, Illinois, and have lived here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag symbolizes the unity of Illinois' rural and urban areas. My design features the famous Chicago skyline seamlessly connected to corn, the state's cash crop, which contributed \$151 billion to the U.S. economy in 2023. The inscription "1818" marks Illinois' entry into the union. This flag celebrates our rich heritage and the harmonious blend of city and countryside.



1094

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in the Chicagoland area my entire life. My extended family has also been in Illinois for their lifetimes, since coming over from Ireland and Sicily generations ago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

As Illinois is known as the Prairie State, I have included a few elements of the state's nature scene. The state's Bird – cardinal, which is carrying a banner with the year Illinois officially became a state (1818), as well as the state Animal – white-tailed deer, and Flower – violet.



1095

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the small northern town of Zion, Illinois, and have lived here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design is a simple, yet powerful symbol of the unity and pride of Illinois. The two blue bands at the top and bottom represent the lifeblood of the state, the Illinois and Chicago Rivers. The two red bands stand for the resilience and strength of the people of Illinois, always banding together in times of need. The inscription "1818" proudly marks our entry into the union. With colors inspired by the Chicago flag, this design beautifully merges our urban and rural heritage.



1096

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue fields represent the Mississippi River & Lake Michigan - great bodies of water that bookend Illinois & shaped its history. The corn represents the fertile ground that has fed the nation. The 5 stars represent Illinois' contributions across 5 fields: industry (including trade & innovation), science (including many Nobel Prizes & breakthroughs), culture (incl. famed artists, musicians & authors), sports (incl. US & international championships), and leadership (incl. four US presidents).



1097

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident since 1994 when I moved here after college at the Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design is centered by a large 5-pointed star representing national unity and contained inside is the small 6-pointed star representing state sovereignty, which connects back to our state motto of "State Sovereignty, National Union". The orange background represents the 2/3 prairie and the white is meant to represent the strong industrial presence. The blue borders are the waters around us: Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, the Wabash & Ohio.



1098

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident since 1994 when I moved here after college at the Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design's most central image is a large 5 pointed star (representing national unity) containing a smaller 6 pointed star (representing state sovereignty) to reflect our state motto. The orange background is meant to represent the 2/3 prairie here and the white represents our industrial strength. The blue border signifies the surrounding waters of Lake MI, the Mississippi River, the Ohio and Wabash rivers to the south.



1099

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident since 1994 when I moved here after college at the Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The prominent element for this design is the prairie grass, representing the 2/3 prairie lands in the state. The white star is placed at the upper right quadrant, as it reflects the placement of the state in the continental US. The red addition at the top completes the color scheme connecting Illinois to our Nation in red, white and blue.



1100

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the state and continue to work in the state

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three green strips represent Illinois rich history in agriculture and the "prairie state" slogan. The Two blue strips represent the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The Blue Triangle Represents Lake Michigan. The 20 Concentric Star with a Singular Star in the center represents Illinois being the 21st state to be admitted into the union. The Stars are white as a nod to the US national Flag.



1101

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised just seven miles from the Illinois State border in St. Louis, Missouri. As a curious onlooker, Illinois always stood for many glorious things*the exciting city, prosperous farmland, the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln, etc. These ideals helped inspire my flag design, along with a few memorable lyrics from "Illinois," the state song:By thy rivers gently flowing*O'er thy prairies verdant growing*Can be writ the nation's glory*Abraham Lincoln's name appears*



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The silhouetted portrait of Abraham Lincoln represents the state slogan, Land of Lincoln. The upper blue field and white star represent Illinois becoming the 21st state to join the United States. The middle green field represents "The Prairie State," one of Illinois' nicknames given by its first settlers. The lower blue waves represent the bodies of water Illinois borders — Lake Michigan and the Mississippi, Wabash, and Ohio Rivers.

1102

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised just seven miles from the Illinois State border in St. Louis, Missouri. As a curious onlooker, Illinois always stood for many glorious things*the exciting city, prosperous farmland, the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln, etc. These ideals helped inspire my flag design, along with a few memorable lyrics from "Illinois," the state song:By thy rivers gently flowing*O'er thy prairies verdant growing*Can be writ the nation's glory*Abraham Lincoln's name appears*



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1103

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

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1104

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life, and it's a big part of who I am. Helping out at the local prairie has made me feel really connected to the nature. I love picking seeds from the bluestem plants and spreading them to grow. It makes me appreciate the outdoors even more! The friends I've made here make me feel like I belong. Even though I like going to new places, Illinois always feels like home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Illinois state flag design has 21 stars because we're the 21st state! I picked yellow for the stars to show creativity and joy. The stars go around the state emblem not just because I think it is appealing I also want to remind everyone of our history. I wanted to change the flag a bit but keep the unique things that make it our flag!

1105



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Indiana, but I love to travel to Illinois to photograph the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I feel that Abraham Lincoln made a great choice for the flag, seeing as how Illinois was important to him. The colors represent the U.S flag colors. The four stars are following the same reason for being on the Chicago flag.

1106



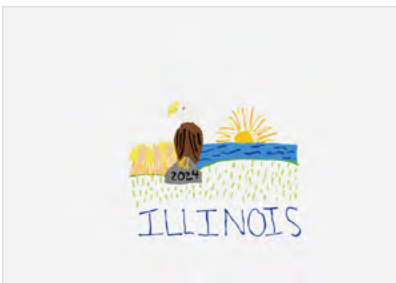
Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois all my life and plan to stay here after high school, maybe even going into a state school like UIUC. I've always enjoyed researching Illinois and its history. I consider it to be a large part of my identity and a great influence on my interest in academics. I've also always been interested in flags, only getting into vexillology recently. I have always thought that the old flag could be better. I want my flag design(s) to invoke state pride. I'm honored to have that chance

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue lines - Lake Mississippi, Illinois River, Wabash River
Blue triangles - Lake Michigan, Ohio River
Green background - Rural expanse, nod to the nickname "The Prairie State"
White star - Entry into the Union
Deer antlers - Wildlife, biodiversity, state's animal: White-Tailed Deer
Wheat ear - Prosperity and land's fertility (nod to Lincoln Wheat Ear Penny, 1909 - 1959)
Yellow star - City of Chicago (surrounded by rural land, agriculture)
The flag is laid out akin to a map of Illinois as well.

1107



Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raised in Illinois, and still live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There is a lake because of Lake Michigan. Corn fields because of our agricultural production. Eagle because we are part of the United States.

1108



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since 2013 and my wife and children were all born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Sunrise over lake and green fields. Sun and lake inspired by current flag. Sun has 18 points, representing 1818 founding year. The lake has 21 waves, representing Illinois as the 21st state. Sunrise symbols of a new day and new beginnings. Green field symbolic of farms and prairies.

1109



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised on the south side of Chicago and attended the University of Illinois at Chicago for undergraduate and graduate studies. My family still lives in Chicago and I visit them at least twice a year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is based on the current flag. The blue strip on the left is an "I" for Illinois, replacing the letters at the bottom of the current flag. The Eagle is from the current Illinois flag. The red strip on right represents the red banner which is in the eagle's mouth in the current flag, representing the state motto. The 4 stars in the red strip are elements from the current flag: the rock, the shield, the olive branch, and the lake in the background, retaining their current meanings.

1110

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised on the south side of Chicago and attended the University of Illinois at Chicago for undergraduate and graduate studies. My family still lives in Chicago and I visit them at least twice a year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is based on the current flag. The blue strip on the left is an "I" for Illinois, replacing the letters at the bottom of the current flag. The Eagle is from the current Illinois flag. The red strip on right represents the red banner which is in the eagle's mouth in the current flag, representing the state motto. The 4 stars in the red strip are elements from the current flag: the rock, the shield, the olive branch, and the lake in the background, retaining their current meanings.



1111

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

brat



1112

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised on the south side of Chicago. I attended the University of Illinois at Chicago for undergraduate and graduate studies. I visit Chicago at least twice a year to see family and friends.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a variation on a previous flag design I submitted (Image ID: 1109). This flag design is the same as that previous design except for the missing blue strip on the left and "Illinois" written at the bottom of the flag and a slightly larger eagle in the center.





1113

Relationship to Illinois

a kind law obeying citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MU

1114

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I am a lifelong resident of the state of Illinois, having been born and schooled in the Peoria area and living all my adult life in the Rockford region. I especially love everything that is Northern Illinois and don't ever see myself uprooting my permanent residence and relocating anywhere else in the country. To know Illinois is to love Illinois!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My thought is to show the broad range that is the state of Illinois. From the rural farmlands to our urban cities over the course of our history as one of the United States of America. I kept the rising sun as it symbolizes to me the dawning of each new day for a state that is prospering for the first time in many years. My suggested colors are red, green and yellow.



1115

Relationship to Illinois

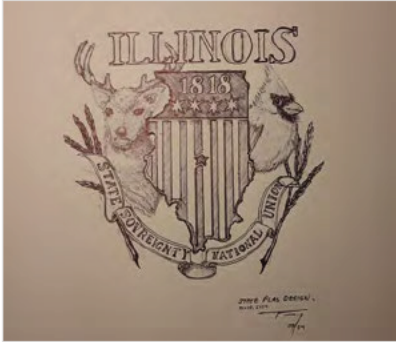
MMiller -I was born and raised in Chicago. I grew up on the Northside near Lincoln Square.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -This flag entry shows the John Hancock, Willis Tower (I still call it the Sears Tower), the state flower (violet), and the Capitol Building in Springfield along with Lake Michigan. Sorry I am not a good artist, currently unemployed and decided to try my hand at this.



1116



Relationship to Illinois

Have lived in Illinois my whole life. Grew up near Brookfield zoo. Am very proud to be a citizen of the state of Illinois and love all that Illinois has to offer. It is the embodiment of the feeling of home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The shield is the shape of the state with 1818, the year of statehood, and the 4 stars from the Chicago flag, with a center star for Springfield in the field of stripes. The white-tailed deer is on the left and northern cardinal to the right with the state motto in the banner below, ILLINOIS above, and the native prairie grass to either side.

1117



Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident my entire life and am currently a student at the University of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Large light blue background to represent the large amount of blue sky visible due to flat prairie land with a thick blue stripe at the bottom to represent the mighty Mississippi with 5 stars representing our neighbors and the one at the top is blue for Lake Michigan.

1118



Relationship to Illinois

Met two good friends while online playing. They teach me a lot, but I've never been able to visit them. This might be my own little present for them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

State song as a guide. The White oak lives across the State, be it north, south, dry or wet. It is the State. Oak is colored yellow as the sun that shines above it. Stylized waves capture the essence of a flat prairie state; represent the great bodies of water and the agriculture in blue; wilderness in white for White-tailed deer and prairies in verdant green.

1119

Relationship to Illinois

Met two good friends while online playing. They teach me a lot, but i've never been able to visit them. This might be my own little present for them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

State song as a guide. The White oak lives across the State, be it north, south, dry or wet. It is the State. Oak is colored yellow as the sun that shine above it. Stylized waves capture the essence of a flat prairie state; represent the great bodies of water and the agriculture in blue; wilderness in white for White-tailed deer and prairies in verdant green.



1120

Relationship to Illinois

Met two good friends while online playing. They teach me a lot, but i've never been able to visit them. This might be my own little present for them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

State song as a guide. The White oak lives across the State, be it north, south, dry or wet. It is the State. Oak is colored yellow as the sun that shine above it. Stylized waves capture the essence of a flat prairie state; represent the great bodies of water and the agriculture in blue; wilderness in white for White-tailed deer and prairies in verdant green.



1121

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The antlers represent the white tail deer in Illinois and the sport of huntingThe star and stripes are for the country we are apart ofThe drawing of Alexi Giannoulas is because I like the name and thought drawing his picture would be fun.



1122

Relationship to Illinois

I live in the Chicago suburbs and my son loves to make flags, he learnt about this in class and decided to make this design.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark blue stripe represents the Mississippi River, which makes the shape of our western border, in the middle is the red star from the flag of Chicago as it represents the majority of Illinois' population, the sky blue stripe represents the beautiful Lake Michigan. I hope that we win and make our state proud with this new, unique flag.



1123

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue is for the sky and the Mississippi River. The yellow is for all the wheat that grows here. The eagle symbolizes what the old one does.



1124

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois that lives in the northwest Chicago suburbs. I have lived in Illinois for most of my life and plan to live here for a long time. Almost all of my family lives in the state and we visit them all of the time. I do not think that me or my family have had any issues with the state and think it is a great place to live. I would also appreciate a new flag because the old flag looks bad, and a redesign would be interesting and provide a better representation of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue bars on either side represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The green stripes show the agriculture happening in our state. The white background is representative of the unity of our state as a whole. The 20 blue stars show the 20 states that existed before Illinois, and are blue to show the perseverance of the USA. Finally, the red star in the middle represents Illinois, and it is just like the stars on the Chicago flag, which is the main source of our population and culture.



1125

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived In the general Illinois area for basically all of my life, with myself moving to Galesburg when I was still in elementary. I have always seen Illinois as a great state, but I always thought our flag was far too simple, and it really only represented a few dates and an eagle.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is to represent our states strong hold on agriculture. We as a state are the number one producers of Soy and Pumpkins, and being second in Corn. The flag has yellow and green as a zigzag pattern to represent the flowing fields of vegetation. The upper half is blue to represent our blue skies, and to show our potential as a state is unending. finally, there are 20 stars. 20 smaller, and a 21st in the center to represent our status as the 21st state and proud.

1126

Relationship to Illinois

I live in the Chicago suburbs and my son loves to make flags, he learnt about this in class and decided to make this design.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 2 blue stripes represent the Mississippi and Lake Michigan. The red stripes represents the Red Cardinal in Illinois to honor it being the state bird. The Red Star represents Chicago and it honors the majority population in Chicago. The flag is simple, not abstract, and holds heavy symbolism for our people. This flag could be drawn by a little child almost perfectly and has no words. -Eldan Solaka

1127

Relationship to Illinois

Born in IL and have lived here for 17 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue and orange for UIUC and Chicago Bears, Lincoln for Land of Lincoln, northern cardinal as IL state bird, Springfield Capitol building in Chicago skyline, state slogan over the water, and 1818 in the Sears tower for when IL was founded





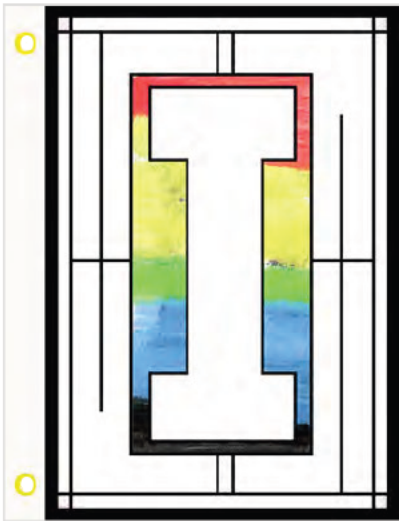
1128

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Created by [REDACTED], age 8. The flag depicts the US national bird standing strong on a rock in a field covered with the Illinois state flower and the image is encircled by elements of the American flag.



1129

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. It will always be part of me. When I moved away, I missed it. I'm back for good. We are a state of innovators. My investigator father proudly and honorably served the people of this state. I want Illinois to be better, to do better, in every respect. I prefer to wear clear, not rose-colored glasses when looking at Illinois' past and present. It is the only way to look, with hope, to the future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stained-glass frame evoking the Prairie School style plus the vivid color movement honors IL creatives; the black foundation celebrates the past, Black Hawk, Lincoln; blue for vital waterways; green for prairies, natural beauty; yellow for agriculture; red for the stars on the Chicago flag, representing innovation and the future. The cornerstones of the design and society are workers, signified by opal, the Oct birthstone of my hard-working mother and father, a decorated state investigator.

1130

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago, and have lived here my entire life. I attended colleges in both urban and rural areas in Illinois. I currently work at a federal office in Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features a minimalist image of a cardinal's head, the state bird of Illinois. The cardinal appears the same from every orientation. The red also represents the bravery of Illinois historical figures like Abraham Lincoln. The white stands for independence and sovereignty, referencing IL's national motto (state sovereignty, national union). The blue stands for justice and represents the various lakes and waterways that define our state and its borders.

1131

Relationship to Illinois

My dad and I designed this flag. We are both lifelong Illinois residents (44 years and 12 years respectively). We are proud Illinois residents.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top and bottom blue fields of the flag represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The middle green field represents the farms and prairies of Illinois. The middle symbol represents the sun rising over Illinois, with the rays stylized to resemble feathers. These feathers represent the native tribes of Illinois. In the middle of the rays are four, six-pointed stars representing Illinois' largest city, Chicago.

1132

Relationship to Illinois

Live here since 2021

Explain the meaning behind your flag

* Blue diagonal line represents Illinois river* Corn kernels represent State's rural communities and one of the Country's leading agriculture* Kernel arrangement as a six-pointed star is a reference to Chicago metropolitan area, home of about 75% of State residents, worldwide famous cultural and economic center



1133

Relationship to Illinois

Live here since 2021



Explain the meaning behind your flag

* Monarch butterfly is the Illinois state insect, symbolizes rich natural resources, their beauty and resilience; agility, rebirth and reincarnation.* 21 white stars symbolize admission to the Union as the 21st State on December 3, 1818.* Blue diagonal ribbon represents beautiful Illinois River, crucial transportation and trade artery connecting Great Lakes and Mississippi River, West and East, North and South.

1134

Relationship to Illinois

Resident



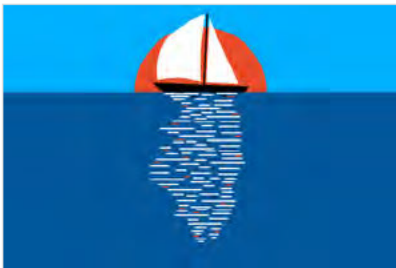
Explain the meaning behind your flag

- the 21 stars represent the founding of the state- There are three rows, representing northern, central and southern Illinois- the blue represents Illinois water ways, specifically Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River

1135

Relationship to Illinois

Live here since 2021



Explain the meaning behind your flag

* Light blue (top): clean air, invaluable resource and treasure for all people and nature.* Dark blue (bottom): State's lakes and rivers.* Orange rising sun at the top center: new beginning, hope, warmth, kindness and energy.* Sailing boat/ship at the top center: discovery, exploration, courage, entrepreneurship, progress & innovation.* White sails: peacefulness and honesty.* Boat's reflection in the water is loosely resembling the shape of Illinois

1136

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag connects the past and the future.-The stylized atomic symbol represents the first commercial nuclear plant, the future-The colored portions represent the 12 original ethnic groups that made up the area that will become Illinois, the past-the three color choices represent the three regions of Illinois: Northern, Central and Southern, Northern is Blue representing Lake Michigan, Central is Red, representing the heart, and the South, green, the state bread basket



1137

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

-The star represents the founding of the state-The three bars represent the northern, central and southern regions of the state.-The blue represents Illinois water ways, Lake Michigan and The Mississippi River.-The mark is also meant to represent an abbreviation of Illinois, "ill"



1138

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Batavia, Illinois having lived within this great state up until recently. My partner and I are planning on moving back within the next year however, as we both have our families in the state, and Illinois has a special place in our hearts. Illinois has provided me with a great education, an amazing culture, and appreciation of history, both for our country and our state. I hope to be able to convey this pride through the design I provide.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design focuses on the more natural aspect of what Illinois provides for its Citizens. In the middle, is the silhouette of the white-tailed deer, the state mammal, surrounded by a Laurel of corn. Corn is an important part of our agricultural economy, as we rank second in corn production in the US, at around 1.5 billion bushels a year. Below the deer, a single star, to represent our status as a part of the union, E Pluribus Unum, Out of many, One.

1139

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for most of my 61 years. I have fond memories of growing up in Skokie. Both of my parents were raised in Chicago and I have resided in the north side of Chicago since 1990, living in the same home that we bought after we were married, where we raised 2 boys. I also attended an Illinois State College (EIU).



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I feel the images represent 2 things that are strongly recognized as Illinois - The Lincoln silhouette for the state slogan "The Land of Lincoln" and the beautiful prairie grass is the visual for "The Prairie State" nickname. I kept the colors focused on nature: Sky, Grass, Soil. I'm aware that not many state flags have the state name on it but I feel like it adds a sense of "Say it loud, Say it proud" and I think it's just a nice piece of trivia to add the year that we entered the union.

1140

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1141

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1142

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Chicago area artist and art-activist. I have lived in Illinois my entire life and am a local teacher here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

* I used the colors of the centennial Illinois flag and added a darker red as well to fit the tone. This is also a studdle nod to the Chicago flag, of similar colors and a major part of the state. * The darker blues in the background represent the waterways that go through Illinois and tie the state together. * While traditionally, Illinois used a 21 star pattern, I used a 3 set of 7 pointed stars to create 21 points for the same meaning. *



1143

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Chicago area artist and art-activist. I have lived in Illinois my entire life and am a local teacher here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

* I used the colors of the bicentennial Illinois flag from 2018. I adjusted it for a more modern look as well. * I used the overall shape of the centennial Illinois flag as my inspiration as well. With the dark blue stripe going across it. * While traditionally, Illinois used a 21 star pattern, I used a 3 set of 7 pointed stars to create 21 points for the same meaning.



1144

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Chicago area artist and art-activist. I have lived in Illinois my entire life and am a local teacher here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

* I used the overall shape of the centennial Illinois flag as my inspiration as well. With the dark blue stripe going across it. I also used the inverse blue and white featured in that flag as well. * While traditionally, Illinois used a 21 star pattern, I used a 3 set of 7 pointed stars to create 21 points for the same meaning.



1145



Relationship to Illinois

I am resident of Chicago, Illinois. My Great Great Grandparents emigrated to the United States and settled in Chicago in the early 1900s.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the sun rising over Lake Michigan and setting over the fields of our fertile state. This design is meant to convey unity — that no matter where in the state we call home, we are all one big connected community.

1146



Relationship to Illinois

I am resident of Chicago, Illinois. My Great Great Grandparents emigrated to the United States and settled in Chicago in the early 1900s.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design represents the natural wonder and beauty of our state — from the lakes and rivers, to the abundant row crops to the natural parks and green spaces. The three stars represent harmony, warmth, and understanding.

1147



Relationship to Illinois

I am resident of Chicago, Illinois. My Great Great Grandparents emigrated to the United States and settled in Chicago in the early 1900s.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design pays homage to the White Oak tree, found in every county of Illinois. The green and yellow represent the abundance of fertile land and thriving agricultural production in the state.

1148

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised as a resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's violet background reflects Illinois' state flower and natural diversity. In the center, a white oak leaf symbolizes strength and resilience, honoring the state tree. A red Northern cardinal, the state bird, perches on the leaf, adding vibrant contrast. The design blends abstract and geometric elements, capturing the essence of Illinois' natural symbols in a modern, visually striking way.



1149

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised as a resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's violet background reflects Illinois' state flower and natural diversity. In the center, a white oak leaf symbolizes strength and resilience, honoring the state tree. A red Northern cardinal, the state bird, perches on the leaf, adding vibrant contrast. The design blends abstract and geometric elements, capturing the essence of Illinois' natural symbols in a modern, visually striking way.



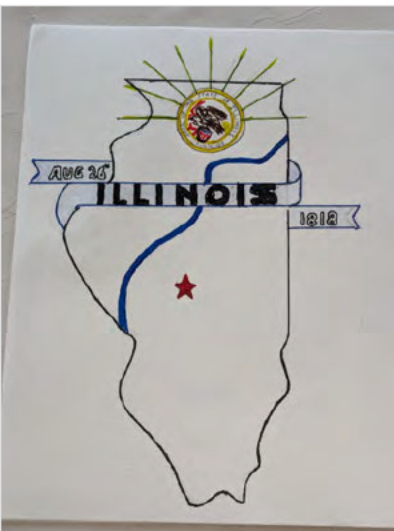
1150

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago. Graduate of Olive-Harvey Jr College and Chicago State University. Retired from the Chicago Police Department in 2002

Explain the meaning behind your flag

1. The top and center of the state is the state seal. 2. The rays surrounding the state flag are the rays of hope for the betterment of the state and its leadership. 3. The blue line represents the Illinois river. 4. The banner shows the states name, and date Illinois became a state. 5. The red star represents the state capital. 6. One example with the state flower, one without the state flower.



1151

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Evanston (Go Wildkits!) and have lived in Glenview since 1997. Previously an art teacher, I currently teach reading and math in the Glenview public schools. I have traveled to 47 states and 7 countries and would never consider living anywhere else. Illinois has diversity, culture, and changing seasons. But most of all it's where my people are.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Pillar - An "I" for Illinois and for strength, stability, and support
Lines - Skyscrapers of cities
Shadow - Shows presence of light
Stars - Red for the cardinal
The 3 stars: Land - The agriculture, state parks, cities and towns
People - Living and working together
Culture - Museums, sports teams, and food
Blue - Border - represents the lake and rivers that make up much of the border of Illinois.
Backdrop - the sky that covers us all
White - Negative space in the shape of Lincoln's hat

1152

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago. I graduated from Olive-Harvey Jr. College and Chicago State University. I retired from the Chicago Police Department.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

1. The seal of the state of Illinois.
2. The rays around the seal represent rays of hope for the state and for the leadership.
3. The blue line represents the Illinois river.
4. The banner represents the date Illinois became a state and the name of the state.
5. The star represents the state capital Springfield.
6. The state flower a Blue Violet.



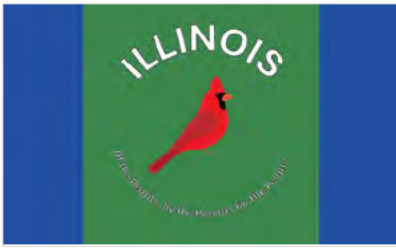
1153

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud citizen of the great state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background colors: the blue bars on each end of the flag signify the blue waters of Lake Michigan on the right and the waters of the Mississippi River on the left. The green section in the middle signifies the verdant green farm fields of Illinois. The center of the flag holds an image of the Illinois state bird: the Cardinal. Above the Cardinal is the state name, and below the Cardinal are the immortal words of Abraham Lincoln from his Gettysburg Address.



1154

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents Illinois as the prairie state. The Yellow represents the vast amount of corn we produce and the economy it provides. The blue represents the sky and rivers of Illinois. The three stars represent the three main rivers (Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash). The stars have 21 points representing Illinois being the 21st state in the United States of America. The bird featured (The Northern Cardinal) is the state bird and is proudly soaring through the vast land of Illinois.



1155

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in northern Illinois, and after graduating from Columbia College Chicago, I lived in Chicago for 10 years. In 2019, I moved to Florida, but missed Illinois so much that my family and I moved back in July 2024.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Deep blue field = Lake Michigan. Light blue stripes = rivers that border IL, Mississippi on western border and Wabash and Ohio on southeastern border. Light blue stripes are both 1/18th of the flag's width, representing the year IL joined the Union, 1818. 6-pointed star = Chicago. Around the star are leafy sprigs = IL's significant agricultural contributions. Each sprig has 6 leaves for a total of 72, representing the 72K farms in IL. Center lockup pays homage to sunburst on original IL flag.

1156

Relationship to Illinois

Sterling, Illinois is my hometown since 1996.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Grow Tall - Illinois The three green lines pointing up represent growth - the tallgrass prairie that provides our state nickname, the cornstalks of Illinois farmland, the skyscrapers dominating the Chicago skyline. As design features, the shape of Illinois is seen in the blue and white clouds. The green lines rise towards the middle of the flag, reflecting Illinois's Midwest location. The sun combined with the green lines spell i-l-l as the old state abbreviation.

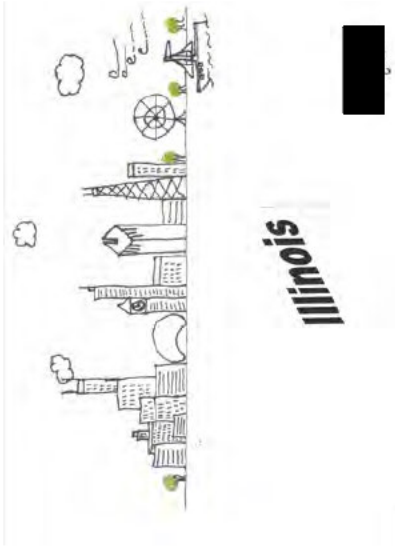
1157

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to the State of Illinois is that I have been a citizen here all my life. I was born in Northlake on March 10, 1962. I moved to various parts of the Metro Chicagoland while pursuing my degrees: Mount Prospect (Associates), Naperville (B.S.C.S.), Bensenville (M.S.C.S @ IIT) and now reside in Elmhurst to raise my family. I have worked as a computer programmer for over 14 years, and as a substitute teacher for over 7 years. Also, I joined the Elmhurst Walk and Rollers Working Group.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Metro Chicago area is a major extravaganza with a beautiful exquisite lakefront, culture, art, richness, diverseness and interest/activities for all. Citizens using our highly acclaimed transit system enjoy amenities, special events, architecture, athletic events and all the festivities of the United States of America's Second City. The drinking water from Lake Michigan is the most delicious water which is available throughout the area. The best attribute, is that we have all four seasons!



1158

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here for a year now, but have lived in Indiana for 10 years. I have visited Illinois often

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white background is to represent the old flag, same with the yellow stripe. The yellow stripe also represents the wheat and corn fields of Illinois. The blue is for it being a mostly democratic state. The cyan blue pentagonal shape is Illinois, and the 4 flowers are the blue violet, 3 to represent major cities, and 1 to represent the capital. And there is also the Red Cardinal to represent the state bird as it looks over the fields and the state.



1159

Relationship to Illinois

I am a former resident of Illinois, where I was born in Peoria in 2001, raised in Dunlap until I graduated from Dunlap High School in 2020, and attended the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign until I recently graduated in 2024. I have adored learning about the state I grew up in, especially its diverse geography and pivotal role in the history of the United States.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is one which features a blue diagonal across the flag, similarly to how the Illinois River travels through Illinois. The four red stars represents the four state constitutions, symbolizing the progress of our state. Yellow represents the agricultural foundation of Illinois and white represents the bright outlook for our state's future. The blue and red colors come from Chicago's flag.

1160

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and reside in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag depicts the iconic silhouette of Illinois native and 16th President of the United States Abraham Lincoln, two stripes representing the rivers that outline Illinois' eastern and western borders, and three blue stars representing each of the capitals in the state's history: Kaskaskia, Vandalia, and Springfield.



1161

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and reside in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag's simple design features blue, gold, and green stripes. This flag captures one of the things I miss most about Illinois whenever I venture outside the state: wide, picturesque skies over broad, flat stretches of fields. The green represents the corn stalks, the gold represents the budding tassels of the plants, and the blue is the wide open sky over the flat horizon.



1162

Relationship to Illinois

My family history begins in Harvey, IL where my family settled from Europe in the early 1900s. I was born and raised in DuPage county. I attended Columbia College Chicago where I earned my BFA in Graphic Design and minor in Art History.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design approach strengthens our existing flag and symbols by refining and simplifying. A simplified Eagle stands in front of a 21 point sunrise to represent a prosperous Illinois embraced by the Union. The arc of the eagles tail is 102 degrees, 1 degree for each county. The star superimposed on the Eagle further represents sovereignty. The three red stars under the Eagle represent the three distinct geographic regions of North, Central, and Southern Illinois and promote State sovereignty.

1163

Relationship to Illinois

Architectural designer that have lived in Illinois since 2015, Attended school in St. Louis and lived across the Mississippi river between the border of Missouri and Southeastern Illinois. Moved to Chicago in 2018 to pursue an architecture career and have established a home for me and my family in Illinois for future generations.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The central circular design symbolizes the unity between two state identities: agriculture and innovation. In the South, A wreath symbolizing agriculture with a wrapping blue banner depicting the intricate relationship between the industry and Illinois water ways; In the North, 21 stars symbolizing the real estate economy in Chicago while pay homage to the historical 21st state of the union. The central Lincoln-Illinois silhouette embraces "Land of Lincoln" historical values by both identities

1164

Relationship to Illinois

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1165

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The central circular design symbolizes the unity between two state identities: agriculture and innovation. In the South, A wreath symbolizing agriculture with a wrapping blue banner depicting the intricate relationship between the industry and Illinois water ways; In the North, 21 stars symbolizing the real estate economy in Chicago while pay homepage to the historical 21st state of the union. The central Lincoln-Illinois silhouette embraces "Land of Lincoln" historical values by both identities

1166

Relationship to Illinois

I have been in Illinois for all of my life and I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the sky we are under for the cities and towns. The yellow represents all the food we make like soybeans. The green represents the U.S. Green Building Council has ranked Illinois number one among all 50 states in the sustainable building design movement and grass we have for agriculture. The corn represents how Illinois makes a lot of corn. The 21 stars represent how Illinois is the 21st state of America.



1167

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home state, where I was born and raised. My cultural experiences, traditions, and events have shaped my identity. In high school, I served as drum major for the Joliet Central High School Band for two years and graduated as Cadet 2nd Lieutenant in JROTC. I currently attend Lewis University and I am majoring in Electrical Engineering with a planned graduation date of May 2028.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design process began with research into Illinois and its history. The elements, such as the lyre and the color choices, symbolize the state's cultural, industrial, and geographical diversity. Blue represents rivers and lakes, green reflects agricultural lands, and silver signifies the industrial past, while the star represents peace, unity, and sovereignty, highlighting Illinois' status within the nation.



1168



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident and proud to serve Illinoisans in my job as a Librarian at the University of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The navy and light blue highlight Illinois deep connection with bodies of waters like Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, with wavy line evoking the latter. The yellow wheat highlights rural Illinois' long and rich history of agriculture.

1169



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for a long time. Although I was born across the border in Indiana, I grew up in the southern suburbs of Chicago. Although I moved away for college and the early part of my career, I have lived in Illinois longer than any other state in the North and South.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue on either side represents the importance of significant bodies of water like Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The blue line in the middle represents the rivers connecting the significant water bodies. The colors Green and Yellow represent the biggest farm exports of the state. The two symbols represent the two most essential influences on Illinois and its history: the city of Chicago and Abraham Lincoln.

1170



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in IL on and off from 1985.

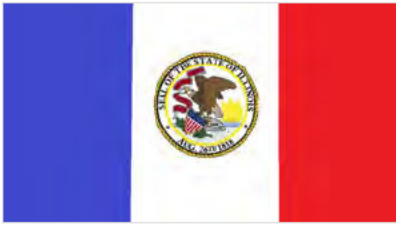
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 13 Point star represents the 13th amendment and Illinois being the first state to implement. The blue stripes are the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan.

1171

Relationship to Illinois

I don't have any relationship to Illinois, but I find the state interesting. Sometimes, a place can capture your attention even without a personal connection. Illinois, known for its history and Chicago, is one of those places for me. Exploring places you have no ties to gives you a new perspective and appreciation. Though I've never been, I'm curious about its culture, history, and what makes Illinois unique compared to other states



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Red, White, and Blue represent its ties with France along with the border it has with lake Michigan, the white also represents the railroads of the state, and the red represents the souls of the people who live there.

1172

Relationship to Illinois

I have never lived in Illinois, but as a midwestern native, I have often travelled to Illinois, mostly to Chicago, but also to points further west and south. Notably, my cousins, aunt, uncle, and grandmother lived for many years in Port Byron and Erie, and I regularly visited them and enjoyed the Mississippi River and surrounding area.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue bars represent water bodies: Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The white bar pays homage to the Cohokia and other native peoples. A 21-spoked wheel notes Illinois's joining the Union. It commemorates: Wagon wheels of settlers Cannon wheels of civil war regiments Tractor wheels that plow rich soils The Ferris wheel, invented in Illinois Argonne National Laboratory Illinois sovereignty is represented by the golden wedge, which combines with other wedges to form the Union.

1173

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - As a Haitian adoptee & a native Minnesotan, my son (11) and I are the embodiment of Illinois - a hardworking Midwesterner & a hardworking naturalized citizen with a bright future. Whether urban or rural (having lived in Peoria and Chicago), two characteristics among its residents remain consistent, wide-open arms, & a quiet fortitude. The design emanates both & showcases the state's rich diversity, its dedication to the environment & its resolve to remain a beacon of hope & freedom.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Deep blue for rich resources & strong character, white for purity & idealism. Background: dark blue prairie, light blue farmland. Wavy lines for movement of native grasses & people (nomadic, settlers, Great Migration, migrants, etc.) Braid-like interplay reflects the weaving of people, cultures & ideas - the thick ribbon that is the fabric of Illinois. Blue/white star has a dual, aspirational meaning. Illinois radiates as a beacon of freedom & resolves to be good stewards of the land.

1174

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago, Illinois for nine years, and love living in this state. In addition to bustle of Chicago and its vibrant music, food and festival scenes, I appreciate the natural beauty and resources that Illinois has to offer. I enjoy hiking at Starved Rock state park and canoeing on the Fox River.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a ring of 20 gold stars, encircling a larger star, which represents Illinois as the 21st state of the United States. The light blue and white rings in the upper right corner represent Lake Michigan carving out the upper right corner of the state.



1175

Relationship to Illinois

I have family that lives in state. I do business in the state as a graphic designer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is a reflection of the American flag with the stripes red and white the blue state for the blue and gold stars for the white stars. There is twenty stars in the circle for the states that were already united and the large one on the bottom of state is the addition to the united twenty to make it twenty-one.

1176

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago, Illinois for nine years, and love living in this state. In addition to bustle of Chicago and its vibrant music, food and festival scenes, I appreciate the natural beauty and resources that Illinois has to offer. I enjoy hiking at Starved Rock state park and canoeing on the Fox River.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a ring of 20 stars, encircling a larger star, which represents Illinois as the 21st state of the United States. It incorporates the red, white and blue of the US flag. The blue and white stripes echo the feeling the water, representing that Illinois is bordered by bodies of water that are significant to the nation: Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River and the Ohio River.



1177

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised here and work as a civil engineer in this great state. Would love to leave my mark by helping redesign the flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The shape of my flag is unique to differentiate it from other state flags and it is also shaped similar to the state itself. The blue line represents the Mississippi river while the wheat line represents the agriculture belt of our state. It also features an updated shield that is currently present on our flag and maintains the name of the state and the year of its founding. I view this submission as a unique and updated version of our current flag.

1178

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life, growing up in the village of Dakota, IL. and living currently in the Chicago suburb of Saint Charles, IL. I am a graphic designer proudly working for a flag manufacturer where I have personally checked and maintained the designs of many of our state flags, and I would be honored for the opportunity to have my design chosen as the flag of my home state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background green, slightly angled, symbolizes our gently sloping plains, while the white provides a clean and modern look. The eagle is in flight and facing right to symbolize our commitment to always move forward. Our signature ribbon is still clutched in its beak as a sign of respect and recognition for our original and previous flags. There are 21 stars, signifying Illinois as the 21st state, consisting of 10 red and 10 blue, symbolizing equality, and 1 purple star, symbolizing unity.

1179

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident in Illinois for my whole entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag includes three colors. Blue, which represents bodies of water like the Mississippi River. The color white that represent the original Illinois flag, and red helps represent the color of the United States. These three colors combine into a flag that resembles that of a United States flag. The blue squiggles on the flag represent specifically the Mississippi River, and the star represents statehood in the USA.



1180

Relationship to Illinois

I have always been a resident of Illinois since birth.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has 3 colors, red, white, and blue. All these three colors not only have similarities to the United States but they represent a certain meaning. Blue signifies bodies of waters such as Mississippi, white represents the original flag and the sky, red represents statehood since the star is red and this color is similar to those found in the USA flag.



1181

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident since birth of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has 2 colors. Blue and White. White represents the resemblance to the old Illinois flag, and the blue represents bodies of water around Illinois. The blue squiggles more specifically represents the Mississippi River. The white star represents the statehood of Illinois.



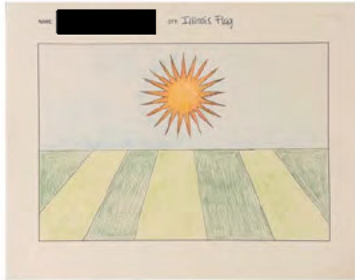
1182

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 2nd generation citizen in Illinois and have been proud to call it my home all these years. Illinois is so full of culture and history. I have been fortunate enough to experience all the good the state provides for its citizens and am proud to call it my home!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The seven green stripes at the bottom of the flag represent the seven states that border Illinois, and the prairie land that covers the state brings a sense of belonging. The background color on the flag's top half is blue to reflect the optimism that Illinois citizens carry proudly at the start of a new day. For the star in the middle of the flag, I chose orange to represent the corn and soybean production. This star also has 21 points to represent Illinois being the 21st state to enter the US



1183

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 2013 for school, and have lived here ever since after falling in love with Chicago and the surrounding state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark blue color evokes the American Flag, the Illinois centennial flag, and the waters of Illinois. The white color evokes peace, the openness of the prairie, and opportunity. The light blue evokes the Chicago flag and represents a blend between the prairie and the lake. The blue bars represent the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, forming the borders of the state and the flag. The dark blue circle represents Lake Michigan. The light blue surrounding it represents Chicago and its surroundings.



1184

Relationship to Illinois

I moved here for school in 2013 and have lived here ever since after falling in love with Chicago and the surrounding areas.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Dark blue evokes the American flag, the Illinois centennial flag, and the waters of Illinois. Light blue evokes the Chicago flag. Green evokes the vibrancy of the Illinois prairie. The blue bars represent the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, which form the borders of both the flag and the state. The dark blue circle represents Lake Michigan. The light blue surrounding it represents the population, energy, and inventive energy of Chicago and Illinois beyond, radiating from the lake.



1185

Relationship to Illinois

I live two states away from Illinois, but I have loved visiting all four times that I've been there. The history, scenery, and cities of Illinois have always been brilliant to me. I acknowledge that this (before this sentence) was shorter than the Gettysburg Address, but I hope that it told you all that you need to know about me and my relationship to the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are 18 stars on each side of the blue stripe, representing the year that Illinois was founded (1818). There are also 21 points on the large white star in the middle, representing the fact that Illinois was the 21st state. This design is based off of the 1918 centennial Illinois flag, but it is not a copy or a clone of it. It does however, include elements from a previous Illinois flag.



1186

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life, and it's a big part of who I am. Helping out at the local prairie has made me feel really connected to the nature. I love picking seeds from the bluestem plants and spreading them to grow. It makes me appreciate the outdoors even more! The friends I've made here make me feel like I belong. Even though I like going to new places, Illinois always feels like home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Illinois state flag design has 21 stars because we're the 21st state! I picked yellow for the stars to show creativity and joy. The stars go around the state emblem not just because I think it is appealing I also want to remind everyone of our history. I wanted to change the flag a bit but keep the unique things that make it our flag!



1187

Relationship to Illinois

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1188

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up within Normal Illinois. I've never moved, nor have I been inclined to. I've immersed myself within agriculture within High school, and I've developed an appreciation for Illinois vast range of commodities that stem from said agriculture.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I was partially inspired by the original flag. The eagle sitting upon the rock and the sun rising behind a swath of land. I wanted to keep those symbols and add the state animal; The white tailed deer. I wanted to depict the deer and the eagle as the blue collar and white collar. One that cultivates the land, builds us our monumental towers, and brings the food to the table. While the other, the eagle, is the bureaucratic backbone; Regulating, documenting and managing.



1189

Relationship to Illinois

I have never lived in Illinois, but as a midwestern native, I have often travelled to Illinois, mostly to Chicago, but also to points further west and south. Notably, my cousins, aunt, uncle, and grandmother lived for many years in Port Byron and Erie, and I regularly visited them and enjoyed the Mississippi River and surrounding area.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The jagged blue chevron on the left is styled on the outline of a Cahokia mound oriented on its side. Its blue color represents the Mississippi river as it caresses the western boundary of Illinois. The green bar across the bottom symbolizes the fertile Illinois soil and the bountiful crops it produces. The silver bar across the top represents urban cityscapes with their concrete and metallic architecture, and economic success.



1190

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and raised in the suburbs, I have spent all but 5 years of my life in Illinois and have seen all different parts of the state from the northern to southern border. Currently residing in Chicago



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design emphasizes balance and adheres to good flag principles. I focus on the eagle from the current flag, making it a recognizable and versatile symbol, much like the stars in the Chicago flag. The eagle is blue, representing Lake Michigan, and is set against an orange stripe, a color that stands out and symbolizes Illinois being #1 in pumpkin production, the university of Illinois and beautiful autumns. Overall, I aimed for a balanced design.

1191

Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Pearl City, IL from birth to age 19, in Springfield, IL from 19 to 26, and in Chicago from 26 to the present. I love this state from, north to south and east to west.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The left-hand blue stripe symbolizes the Mississippi River, the right-hand blue stripe symbolizes Lake Michigan, and the 51-point star symbolizes all the counties in between. Each point symbolizes two counties. A 102-point star may be unwieldy on bumper stickers and on small flags.

1192

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Berwyn, Illinois up until middle school, where I moved to Western Springs and I have spent my life at since. I went to college at University of Illinois at Chicago, where I got my Civil Engineering degree from, and I commuted from Western Springs to Chicago everyday using the Metra. I am proud to be an Illinoisan and happy that I have been able to spend all my life here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The vertical blue stripe represents the Mississippi River and the horizontal blue stripe represents the Illinois River. The white lines symbolize the railroad industry. The St. Louis to Chicago train route follows a similar path to the Illinois River, hence those lines being parallel. The dark blue symbolizes the industrial and urban North of Illinois and the light green symbolizes the agricultural and rural South. Finally, the six-pointed star on the upper right represents the Chicagoland area.



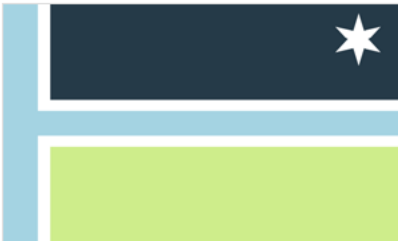
1193

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

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1194

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to take inspiration and pay homage to the current Illinois flag and simplify it while keeping its meaning. In the background of the Illinois flag, there is grass, a body of water, and a sunrise. I have taken those elements and simplified them in a geometrically aesthetic way. I interpret the symbols now as the sunrise symbolizing the bright future for the state, the water representing Illinois River and Lake Michigan, and the grass representing the agriculture that Illinois provides.

1195

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois since age 9. I am 34 now. I've studied and work in Illinois. I attended elementary, middle, and high school and recently received my associates in human services from college. I plan to continue my education in Illinois. I've worked in the health, arts, and mental systems since age 18. All of my family also lives in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Rectangular shaped divided into two half-colored squares representing diversity and welcoming of the state. Blue representing the waterways of the state, and red representing courage and bravery. A white four-pointed star in the middle representing justice, equality, peace, and stability. Each point representing north, south, east, west as a whole state, four seasons. Surrounded by two wheat leaves representing agriculture and future of Illinois.

1196

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised around Naperville, IL, in the western suburbs of Chicago. While I left for about four years to attend university in Winter Park, FL, I ultimately decided to return to Illinois. I love the state, the area, the liveliness, and the pride that people here take in where they live. Illinois is always moving forward and making progress, which is something I constantly admire and am thankful for.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag incorporates elements from the previous flag, honoring the origins of which it came from. It uses the shield as well as the red banner with the motto. In addition, it incorporates Illinois's founding date and the date it gained statehood, as well as the four stars from the Chicago flag. While it's important to honor where you come from, it's just as vital to do what you can to improve the world and make it a better place for those who come after you. Keep moving forward, Illinois.

1197

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] - Passing through and had a wonderful visit.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] - Blue for the Illinois River. Gold for the fields of corn. Green for the forests of the state. The red star for the people and history of valor. The white stars are the previous states of the union (21 stars = 21st state).



1198

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] - Passing through and had a wonderful visit.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] - Designed by Ken Morton on an idea by Hanz LN. Based on the Wallace Rice flag, middle stripe is the Illinois River, red stripes are the state motto ribbons (held by the eagle) and white star for Illinois.



1199



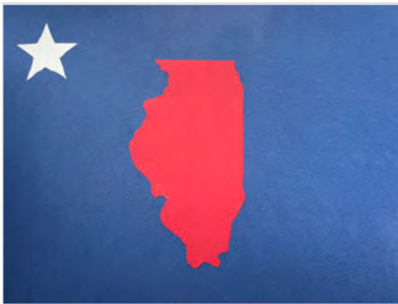
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] - Passing through and had a wonderful visit.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] - Designed by MagnumDrako25 and Tacolmperial. Three stars with 21 points adding up to the 21st state. Blue for the Illinois river and the red stripes are the motto stripes (held by the Eagle).

1200



Relationship to Illinois

I am a Chicago born, lifelong Illinois resident. I'm 72 years old now, but when I was 10 years old I borrowed a book from the Chicago Public Library on the flags of the nations of the world and then drew them all using colored pencils.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design I am submitting today has a white star on the upper left side corner onto a blue field. And in the middle is a red shape of our state. These three colors (red, white, and blue) harken to the colors of our national flag. The white star stands for Illinois, the 21st state in the union. The blue reflects the color from the canton of the USA flag. I have omitted the white border of my original design since your rules say no frame, though I think it would add to a better design.

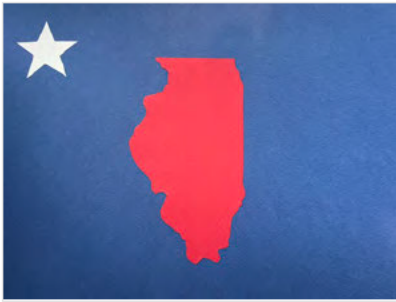
1201

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Chicago born, lifelong Illinois resident. I'm 72 years old now, but when I was 10 years old I borrowed a book from the Chicago Public Library on the flags of the nations of the world and then drew them all using colored pencils.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design I am submitting today has a white star on the upper left side corner onto a blue field. And in the middle is a red shape of our state. These three colors (red, white, and blue) harken to the colors of our national flag. The white star stands for Illinois, the 21st state in the union. The blue reflects the color from the canton of the USA flag. I have omitted the white border of my original design since your rules say no frame, though I think it would add to a better design.



1202

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois all my life except for a brief time that I attended art college.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue in the flag is for Lake Michigan. Green represents the parks and forest preserves. Yellow is for the corn and orange represents Illinois being the #1 supplier of pumpkins in America. The outline of the state overlapping the ILLINOIS type represents the rugged terrain of Shawnee National Forest. Thank you.



1203

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois all my life except for a brief time that I attended art college.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The black and grey area is a homage to Abraham Lincoln's hat - Land of Lincoln. Blue in the flag is for Lake Michigan. Green represents the parks and forest preserves. Yellow is for the corn and orange represents Illinois being the #1 supplier of pumpkins in America. Thank you.



1204



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois all my life except for a brief time that I attended art college.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The black and grey area is a homage to Abraham Lincoln's hat - Land of Lincoln. This one is type free. Blue in the flag is for Lake Michigan. Green represents the parks and forest preserves. Yellow is for the corn and orange represents Illinois being the #1 supplier of pumpkins in America. Thank you.

1205



Relationship to Illinois

I have always admired Illinois and intend to move there in the future. I also have many friends who have live there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three blue sections of the flag represent the three bodies of water that surround Illinois; the Mississippi River, Lake Michigan, and the Wabash/Ohio Rivers. The orange represents the fertile fields of Illinois. The three colors also represent the three parts of Illinois; Chicagoland, Central/Northwest Illinois, and Southern Illinois. The white stripes represent those who live in rural locations in Illinois. The star in the center represents those who live in urban cities in Illinois.

1206

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the western suburbs of Chicago (Lombard & Oak Brook) and attended school through high school here in Illinois (Hammerschmidt Elementary, Glenn Westlake Middle School, and Benet Academy). I currently work for the Illinois Collaboration on Youth in a communications & community outreach position. I've spent many hours traveling the state for work, pleasure, and to get to and from St. Louis (where I went to college). I love this state and its rich history and culture.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is fairly simple--a cardinal on a tree branch set on a blue sky. The cardinal is the state bird of Illinois (I believe we were #2 in adopting it). The branch pictured is one I found on the online application I used, but there is room to encompass symbolism (perhaps 18 little twigs sprouting from it to represent 1818, the year Illinois was admitted to the Union). The cardinal resting near the end of the branch represents our progress as a state and our desire to continue down our path.

1207

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the western suburbs of Chicago (Lombard & Oak Brook) and attended school through high school here in Illinois (Hammerschmidt Elementary, Glenn Westlake Middle School, and Benet Academy). I currently work for the Illinois Collaboration on Youth in a communications & community outreach position. I've spent many hours traveling the state for work, pleasure, and to get to and from St. Louis (where I went to college). I love this state and its rich history and culture.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is meant to simultaneously convey the natural geography and Illinois, its industry, and its history. The three rivers on the left represent the 3 major rivers that form Illinois' borders: the Ohio, the Wabash, and the Mississippi. The gold background represents a golden autumnal field of crops. The star, from Chicago, also represents 6 phases of Illinois history: Point 1: Indigenous Settlers, 2: Statehood, 3: Lincoln/Civil War, 4: Labor/Industrialization, 5: Great Migration, 6: Future



1208

Relationship to Illinois

resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It shows the date when Illinois became a state and that it became the 21st in 1818

1209

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Chicago born, lifelong Illinois resident. I'm 72 years old now, but when I was 10 years old I borrowed a book from the Chicago Public Library on the flags of the nations of the world and then drew them all using colored pencils.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design I am submitting today has a white star on the upper left side corner onto a blue field. And in the middle is a red shape of our state. These three colors (red, white, and blue) harken to the colors of our national flag. The white star stands for Illinois, the 21st state in the union. The blue reflects the color from the canton of the USA flag. I have omitted the white border of my original design since your rules say no frame, though I think it would add to a better design.



1210

Relationship to Illinois

After completing college, I was incredibly excited to be given the opportunity to move to Illinois and have enjoyed my time here as resident of the city of Chicago for over 12 years; it's truly become my home in the best way possible.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A tweak to the classic tricolor and subtle nod to our French progenitors, we pay homage to Illinois in three parts. The centerpiece is Lincoln's hat to rally all Illinoisans and emphasize his revered Presidential legacy. A green color block to represent prairie, inspired by our state motto whilst also honoring the UNESCO Cahokia Mounds. A blue color block to symbolize water central to our zeitgeist: Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and the engineering feat of reversing the Chicago River.



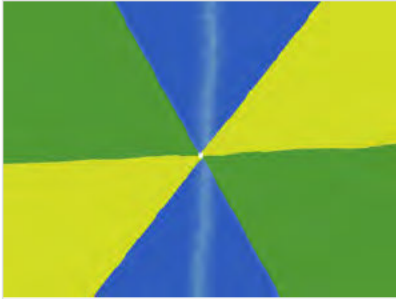
1211

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I moved to the state in 2020 in the middle of the Covid-19 Pandemic and I moved to Wilmette. Once I arrived in Wilmette, all of the people of Illinois were welcoming to me. Now I attend Highcrest Middle School in Integrated Global Studies, where we watched the TED Talk on Good Flag Design. Now I hope that my flag will be hanging above Springfield Illinois, my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is the blue portion of my flag represents the beautiful lakes of Illinois. The yellow part portrays the vast prairies of our state. The Green portion of my flag shows the forests and the woods that surround the state and the large corn export that the state provides. Lastly, the white stripe represents the Chicago and the Mississippi rivers.



1212

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue in the flag represents the sky and the rivers in Illinois. The green represents the vast prairies in Illinois. The yellow in the flag represents the immense amount of corn produced in Illinois and its significance to the economy. The three stars represent the three main rivers (Wabash, Mississippi, and Ohio Rivers), and their 21 points represent Illinois becoming the 21st state in the United States of America.



1213

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong IL resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The apple stands for freedom, eagle for our country, the bear stands for our fighting, the deer stands for our rights, the owl stands for our united nation, and the flag stands for our country.



1214



Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong IL resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Eagle: Freedom Apples: Heart Healthy Flags: Safety Airplane: Fighting Bird: Keeping our environment safe Trees: Clean Air Flower: Animal safety

1215



Relationship to Illinois

I call Illinois my home - I have lived there my entire life and there is no other place I would rather live. This is the place where I plan to raise my children and leave my legacy.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The existing Illinois flag, with its iconic design, has long symbolized the state's history. However, this new design represents and highlights Illinois as a place where every voice contributes to the collective story. Such a flag not only honors the past but also embraces the future. From the Mississippi River of great importance that helped Chicago become a major trading hub to the four stars that represent Chicago, the state's biggest city that holds all walks of life.

1216



Relationship to Illinois

I am Alden Zards, and I was born in Naperville Illinois, and lived in Plainfield for 10 years and then moved to Florida, I relate to Illinois because it means a lot to my childhood, and me and my family revisit almost every year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Abraham Lincoln (land of Lincoln), the blue for Lake Michigan (and relation to the Chicago city's flag). The red star again relating to the stars in the Chicago flag.

1217

Relationship to Illinois

I absolutely love this state, having grown up in the greater Naperville area and still pursuing higher education in Governors State University. Whether it's the suburban areas near Naperville (where I enjoyed my childhood) and Willowbrook (where I currently live), the busier city areas, Chicago (which bears its own mention), or the natural beauty all over this beautiful state, I want to show my appreciation for this beautiful place.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to embrace simplicity with this design. The main design element here is the odd shape. I was inspired by Nepal and Ohio but did not go as far as either of those flags. The stripes symbolize the rivers flowing through Illinois as well as the beautiful sky and skylines. I went for a star to mildly resemble those on Chicago's flag with more points and a golden color because Illinois is much more than Chicago. Contrast aside, it also resembled golden fringes. The dimensions are flexible.

1218

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and take great pride in our state and what it stands for.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag takes elements of the original with the number 1818 and 1868 while replacing the eagle with Illinois's state bird the cardinal. The sunrise remains but is also simplified to an orange circle. The two lines are a nod to the city of Chicago colored red in contrast to the blue of Chicago's flag. Other than that there isn't much more it is meant to be simple to recreate, memorable and most importantly recognizable as the rally for residents of Illinois.



1219

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Chicago Illinois, my city and state roots have shaped me into who I am today. I take great pride in my home state and want to represent it with my flag design



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The navy blue star symbolizes Illinois as the twenty first state highlighting its role in the United States since the early days of the US. The Beige stripe represents the agricultural roots and fertile plains of the prairie state. The copper stripe represents the states industrial legacy and pivotal role in the US railway expansion and development. The Navy stripe represents Lake Michigan and Illinois waterways vital to trade and transport.

1220

Relationship to Illinois

um i was born here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

i was told to make this by my teacher



1221

Relationship to Illinois

As a long-time resident of Illinois, I have explored many corners of this beautiful state and deeply appreciate the richness of its people and landscapes. Designing a new state flag that truly embodies the spirit of Illinois is both an exciting and meaningful challenge. I'm honored to share my vision for the next iteration of a flag that proudly represents our state. I aim to craft a bold, iconic symbol*something instantly recognizable as Illinois*that stands the test of time.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

21 stars – 21st state. Shape of IL is recognizable. Dark blue represents the Miss. River to the west, emphasizing state's connection to this vital waterway. Forward angle signifies forward-thinking spirit of Illinois. Lt blue symbolizes L. Michigan. Represents significance as a natural resource and rec. area. Flag reflects Illinois' diverse landscapes and residents' appreciation for both the land and water that shape their identity. Gold represents the agricultural heritage its golden prairies.

1222

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that farming becomes our land is mostly prairie and farming and the food it provides from farmers and all the wheat, corn, alfalfa, and fruit like apples and tomatoes. Meat farms where Illinois raises pigs, cows, goats, and chickens. Also a lot of vegetables like carrots, potatoes, zucchini, eggplant, peppers, cucumbers, and so much more.



1223

Relationship to Illinois

I breath the air of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made a flag that it is a sunny day. My flag has a sun in the middle of the flag. I put the dirt at the bottom of the flag, which is brown. The middle of the flag is grass, which is green. The top of the flag is the sky, which is blue. The sun means growth and warmth. The dirt and the grass are a connection to earth. The sky means there is a lot of open space in Illinois. That is what my flag means.



1224

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here all my life. The history and condition of Illinois is very important to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The brown feathers are eagle feathers. The eagle feathers mean bravery and strength. Eagle feathers also have great importance and symbolism in Native American culture. Our state has a lot of Native American history. In Native American culture, eagle feathers mean honesty, truth, courage, wisdom, power, and freedom. The sun represents our farming culture, energy, power, and positivity. The sun is very important for our state, as farming and solar energy is quite important in our state.



1225

Relationship to Illinois

As a long-time resident of Illinois, I have explored many corners of this beautiful state and deeply appreciate the richness of its people and landscapes. Designing a new state flag that truly embodies the spirit of Illinois is both an exciting and meaningful challenge. I'm honored to share my vision for the next iteration of a flag that proudly represents our state. I aim to craft a bold, iconic symbol*something instantly recognizable as Illinois*that stands the test of time.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

20 stars surround state — 21st star — capital, Springfield. A proud representation of the state's identity and heritage and a source of pride for its residents. Lt blue symbolizes L. Michigan & significance as a natural resource and recreational area. Orange is associated with optimism, happiness, & enthusiasm. Also the path of the sun as it moves from E to W highlighting states central position in the country. Dk blue — Mississippi River, emphasizing the state's connection to this vital waterway.

1226

Relationship to Illinois

I live here, I was born here, It's a beautiful place.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I attempted to draw a farmer on the prairie with the sun rising behind him. I drew that because Illinois is also known as the Prairie State, so I drew a prairie with a farmer because we have many farmers that work hard every day on the prairies.



1227

Relationship to Illinois

Both parents grew up in Illinois, and we live in Marseilles.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The husk of corn represents our state snack: popcorn. Illinois also produces the most corn. The cardinal is our state bird. The white background stands for purity, red is the color of blood, and purple is the color of royalty. The violet in the bird's beak is our state flower.



1228

Relationship to Illinois

As a long-time resident of Illinois, I have explored many corners of this beautiful state and deeply appreciate the richness of its people and landscapes. Designing a new state flag that truly embodies the spirit of Illinois is both an exciting and meaningful challenge. I'm honored to share my vision for the next iteration of a flag that proudly represents our state. I aim to craft a bold, iconic symbol*something instantly recognizable as Illinois*that stands the test of time.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

21 Stars — 21st state to join Union. Cameo: A tribute to Abe Lincoln, highlighting states indelible association with the president. Blue Corners — four rivers that border Illinois. Lt Blue — Lk. Michigan, one of the defining natural features of the state. White band symbolizes peace, transparency, and truth in governance & public life. Orange conveys optimism, happiness, & enthusiasm of its people. This thoughtful combination of symbols encapsulates both Illinois' geography and its values.

1229

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life, and it's a big part of who I am. Helping out at the local prairie has made me feel really connected to the nature. I love picking seeds from the bluestem plants and spreading them to grow. It makes me appreciate the outdoors even more! The friends I've made here make me feel like I belong. Even though I like going to new places, Illinois always feels like home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Illinois state flag design has 21 stars because we're the 21st state! I picked yellow for the stars to show creativity and joy. The stars go around the state emblem not just because I think it is appealing I also want to remind everyone of our history. I wanted to change the flag a bit but keep the unique things that make it our flag!





1230

Relationship to Illinois

I live there and it's my third favorite state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning is to be grateful to the explorer, Louis Jolliet.



1231

Relationship to Illinois

I live in it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The northern cardinal is the state bird, red for justice, green for animals, and white for people.



1232

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life and being a graphic designer from this state I thought it would be a cool opportunity to try and improve the flag Illinois has currently.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The first main meaning of the Flag is the giant I it creates from the rectangles. The 3 blue lines represent the 3 major bodies of water that Illinois touches the Mississippi River, the Illinois River and Lake Michigan. The horizontal yellow stripes represent agriculture and more specifically corn one of the major things Illinois is known for.



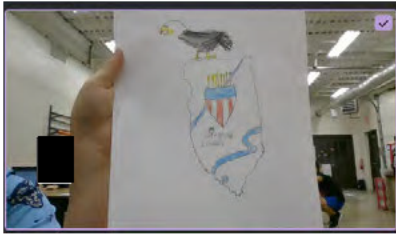
1233

Relationship to Illinois

The only relationship I have with Illinois is with football.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I picked this because I felt like we should have like the American flag so that's why I did that type of drawing.



1234

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here they saved me when I had a rhino virus in my Silva gland.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag shows the crops that we have harvested and are state Bird that shows freedom.



1235

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and getting an opportunity to improve the state flag is great.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 large color blocks of blue represent the main bodies of water that touch Illinois. The yellow lines represent agriculture. And the white sun takes nod of the original flag using a more simplified shape and each ray adds up to 21 for Illinois being the 21st state.



1236

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and I am a graphic designer

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The rays shining out from the star is a nod to the original flag. I wanted the pillars to look like a simplified corn stalk to represent agriculture in Illinois. The two yellow blocks also represent agriculture by showing how the fields look like almost like you were viewing them from an airplane and seeing them in their simplicity. The 3 large blue lines represent the main bodies of water that are apart of Illinois.

1237



Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I've been born and raised here and I love it here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is the colors orange and blue are the state colors and I added red and yellow because red goes good with it and yellow is the star so I wanted to add that.

1238



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Springfield, IL, and raised in Girard then later on Springfield. This is the state I call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark blue is meant to represent the rivers that make up the borders of IL. The white diamond & line is meant to represent unity & meant to be similar to how the tribes of the Illinois Confederation decorated their hides, an homage to the Illinois name. The inner diamond is an orange, representing Unity and a nod to the motto of National Union. An octogram, nodding to the states creation in 1818, along with the shape of a compass rose, representing the global impact and culture of Illinois.

1239

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I was born near Illinois & have had a connection with it through the years. Either with loved ones & friends or vacationing with family. One of my favorite memories was taking Amtrak through the state with my wife to see the different parts of the state and admire the genuine Americana of all parts of our country. We ended our journey in Chicago & went to as many landmarks, eateries, and museums. Though I am not an Illinoisan, I am very happy to share this United States with them.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Three 7 point stars to show the three main parts of the state as well as represent the 21st state. Field of blue for water & industry. River element for transit & the importance of the river to the states history as well as today. 16 point compass made of feathers to show the navigation & travel to, from, and through the state, as well as a nod to the 16th president, Lincoln. Feathers for native Illiniwek. Orange & white field for agriculture & unity. 5 bars for 5 main Illini Tribes

1240

Relationship to Illinois

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1241

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1242

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I have lived here my whole life, including attending college here, with no plans to leave.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design includes important Illinois iconography built into the typesetting of the word "Illinois." It includes a silhouette of Abraham Lincoln, a cob of corn, and the state bird, a cardinal.



1243

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I have lived here my whole life, including attending college here, with no plans to leave.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is a traditional patriotic red, white and blue design with the shape of Illinois in white.



1244



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I have lived here my whole life, including attending college here, with no plans to leave.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is a more delicate approach, using the state flower of the Violet as inspiration for both the illustration and the color palette.

1245



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Berwyn, Illinois up until middle school, where I moved to Western Springs and I have spent my life at since. I went to college at University of Illinois at Chicago, where I got my Civil Engineering degree from, and I commuted from Western Springs to Chicago everyday using the Metra. I am proud to be an Illinoisan and happy that I have been able to spend all my life here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background depicts a bright sky, symbolizing how bright and clear the commitment the people of Illinois have for their state. The circular train track has 21 tracks as Illinois is the 21st state and it is yellow to mimic the sun, as the transportation industry provides energy for the state. Finally, the plant is a corn plant due to how much corn and agriculture in general Illinois provides for America. It also symbolizes the continued growth the state and Illinoisans continue to show.

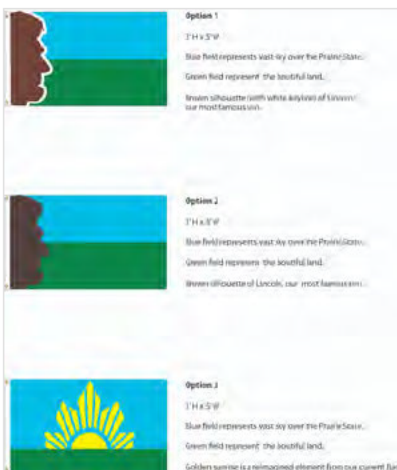
1246

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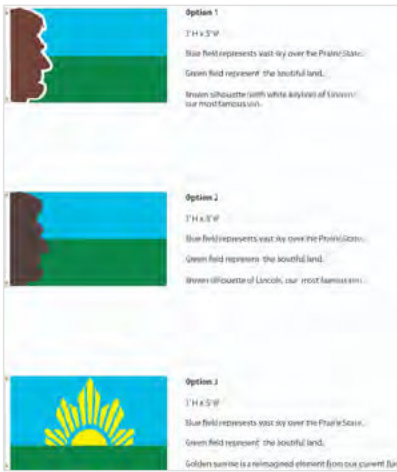
1247

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Harvey, Grew up in Midlothian, went to college in DeKalb and Chicago, got my Masters in River Forest, work in Carol Stream and currently reside in Downers Grove. A life-long Illinoisan, and proud of it!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose graphic elements and colors to represent some of the great things about our state: Blue skies, Green fields, Golden sunrises and a complimentary-colored Lincoln silhouette in Brown. All images and colors that make me think "Illinois!".



1248

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Harvey, Grew up in Midlothian, went to college in DeKalb and Chicago, got my Masters in River Forest, work in Carol Stream and currently reside in Downers Grove. A life-long Illinoisan, and proud of it!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

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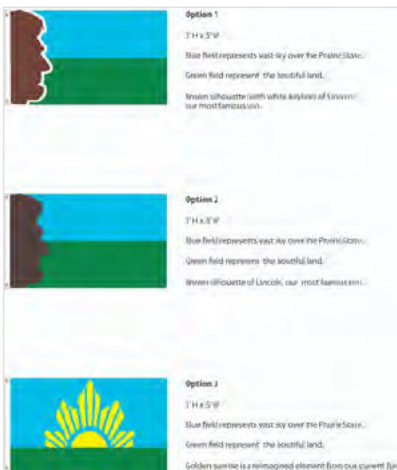
1249

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and have built my closest relationships here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two red stripes on the top and bottom of the flag with a larger white stripe in between emulates the State Sovereignty National Union banner, while the blue zigzags represent the grasses and prairies of our Prairie State, while simultaneously allowing for the color scheme of entire flag to remind us of the American flag, and the star in the middle represents unity, which is a fundamental aspect of the midwestern region.



1250

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Harvey, Grew up in Midlothian, went to college in DeKalb and Chicago, got my Masters in River Forest, work in Carol Stream and currently reside in Downers Grove. A life-long Illinoisan, and proud of it!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose graphic elements and colors to represent some of the great things about our state: Blue skies, Green fields, Golden sunrises and a complimentary-colored Lincoln silhouette in Brown. All images and colors that make me think "Illinois!"

1251

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Lifelong resident of Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - This design was etched into glass. Illinois engraved in the middle. Left side is state of Illinois with 21 stars to symbolize statehood. Right side is the Chicago flag. Below is the water tower of Chicago to symbolize life. The bird flying is the Northern Cardinal, in flight for freedom. Bottom is the prairie with 4 flowers that are violets to symbolize past presidents from Illinois. 18 unopened ears of corn on the left symbolize centuries and 18 opened ears of corn symbolize years.

1252

Relationship to Illinois

Hi my name is Anne, I've lived in Illinois for my entire life, I was born in Chicago and raised in Naperville, this is my home and I'm super proud to live here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is a little complex, the colors on the flag all mean something, the purple is the color of our state flower the common blue violet, the mint color is the interior of that flower, the yellow is the color of the gold rush apple and the white is just endless opportunity. The star in the corner represents the violet, and the star we represent on the US flag. The bottom represents both swaying corn and Lake Michigan to show the unity of the state. The colors show the uniqueness of our state.

1253

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and as an artist, have always appreciated the beauty of the state. Illinois will always be considered home to me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Illinois state flower, the violet, is a symbol of Illinois that is highly under-represented, so I wanted to create a design that showcased its beauty. The simple white background, placement of text, and circular motif of the original Illinois flag design were kept, preserving some of the history of the original flag. A Lake Michigan sunrise is also featured, an unforgettable beauty of Illinois.

1254



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green bottom half of the flag represents the Illinois Prairie, and the blue top half represents the lake. The 12 pointed star represents the 12 tribes of the Illinois Confederacy, the indigenous peoples from whom Illinois takes its name.

1255



Relationship to Illinois

Born in Naperville, IL and raised in Matteson, IL. Current citizen of Cook County IL and alumni of Illinois State University and Prairie State College.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents the State's motto: "State Sovereignty, National Union". On the left side of the flag, there is a single white star with an updated version of the state seal on a blue background representing the state of Illinois and state sovereignty. On the right side of the flag, 49 blue stars in a 7x7 grid on a white background representing the other states and national union. This will be the only state flag to represent every state on it's own flag.

1256

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 1998. I have lived in Illinois longer than anywhere else. I live in Chicago, but my children are young naturalists, so I have traveled all over the state and am awed by its surprising beauty. Chicago has the best architecture in the world, but downstate has the best hiking trails I've even been on. And I moved here from Colorado.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

First and foremost, the field of amber represents fields of grain & agriculture. The two blue stripes represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The atom-esque symbol represents IL's place in history as an innovator in science & technology, as well as architecture & engineering. The unique 6-pointed star represents IL as the home of the entire Midwest's most important city, Chicago. The circle represents IL as a center for transportation: by autos, trains, boats, & airplanes.



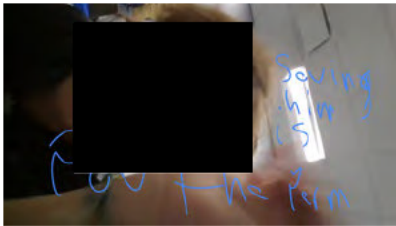
1257

Relationship to Illinois

because we love illnois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

its buetiful



1258

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED]. I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I like living in Illinois because I like my school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag uses an eagle to represent the state of Illinois. There is a piece of corn in the eagle's beak because I think of corn when I think of Illinois. I don't live near Chicago, so there are a lot of corn fields where I live.



1259

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Madelynn. I'm in second grade. I live in Illinois. I like going to school and playing with my friends. I look outside my window and always see the corn fields.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made this flag because I decided there is an eagle that represents America and Illinois is part of America. I made the shape of Illinois because that's where I live. I love to play with my friends so I put a picture of my friends and I holding hands. I really love going to school and learning new things so I drew a picture of my school.



1260

Relationship to Illinois

Current resident and I have lived here my whole life. I am currently an art teacher in Batavia, IL to high schoolers. My main focus is the importance of art and teaching students that you should always try new things.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are four main components of my flag. The foreground we have a banner with the State motto framed by corn. The road is to represent the iconic route 66 heading into our middle ground that is our Chicago skyline. Finally, the background is the sky in the shape of a Ferris wheel representing the Springfield Fair and Navy Pier.



1261

Relationship to Illinois

Connection to Illinois--My great, great, great-grandparents emigrated from Scotland to Illinois in the 1850s. They were married in Hancock, County in 1852 and farmed there.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Land of Leaders - As home to 4 Presidents, Illinois' leaders include Presidents, as well as Black Hawk, Percy Julian, J.Deere, and Hazel Johnson. To honor all our leaders, the shield (prior flag) is reimaged. The blue stars represent leadership in commerce, agribusiness, biotech, & transportation. The white basket holds the State's bountiful harvest of pumpkins, soy, & corn. The 3 gold stars at sunrise shine for government "of the people, by the people, and for the people" (A. Lincoln).

1262

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are four main components of my flag. The foreground we have a banner with the State motto framed by corn. The road is to represent the iconic route 66 heading into our middle ground that is a silhouette of our Chicago skyline. Finally, the background is the sky in the shape of a Ferris wheel representing the Springfield Fair and Navy Pier.

1263

Relationship to Illinois

Connection to Illinois--My great, great, great-grandparents emigrated from Scotland to Illinois in the 1850s. They were married in Hancock, County in 1852 and farmed there. Although I grew up across the river in Missouri, I spent a considerable amount of time in my youth shopping at Quincy Mall.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A Pillar of Strength –As a State strengthened by great natural resources, Illinois has major waterways (blue bars), rich topsoil, and prairies (green pillar) and is also a leading producer of renewable fuels. The green further signifies a capital letter “I” for Illinois. The surrounding white box stands for harmony and a strong, entrepreneurial people. The 3 golden stars connote the strength & power derived from governance “of the people, by the people, and for the people” (A. Lincoln).

1264

Relationship to Illinois

Connection to Illinois--My great, great, great-grandparents emigrated from Scotland to Illinois in the 1850s. They were married in Hancock, County in 1852 and farmed there. Although I grew up across the river in Missouri, I spent a considerable amount of time in my youth shopping at Quincy Mall.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Prairie State Excellence - Illinois is bounded by waterways and is a leading crossroads of commerce. The lake, rivers, and historical canals are represented by the blue bars. The prairie lands and world-leading, productive farmlands are symbolized by the native purple cone flower. The golden bars signify a society framed by excellence in education and technology. The 3 golden stars remind us that freedom is best when born “of the people, by the people, and for the people” (A. Lincoln).

1265

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, Illinois, I am an entertainer known to many as Chicago's own Michael Jackson impersonator. I have traveled around the country and have had many opportunities to leave the state but there's no place like the great State of Illinois which is home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have came up with many ideas of my flag design using colors and different images, I finally settled on one design which is placing the shape of the state in the middle with the state seal dead center and three stripes on each side, I used the red, white and blue for one design, Blue and white for another design and finally my last was Brown and yellow like we see on our State Vehicles.



1266

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, Illinois, I am an entertainer known to many as Chicago's own Michael Jackson impersonator. I have traveled around the country and have had many opportunities to leave the state but there's no place like the great State of Illinois which is home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have came up with many ideas of my flag design using colors and different images, I finally settled on one design which is placing the shape of the state in the middle with the state seal dead center and three stripes on each side, I used the red, white and blue for one design, Blue and white for another design and finally my last was Brown and yellow like we see on our State Vehicles.



1267

Relationship to Illinois

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I have came up with many ideas of my flag design using colors and different images, I finally settled on one design which is placing the shape of the state in the middle with the state seal dead center and three stripes on each side, I used the red, white and blue for one design, Blue and white for another design and finally my last was Brown and yellow like we see on our State Vehicles.

1268

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois from Florida in 1984 after I finished college. I lived in Chicago from 1984-1986 and 1988-1992 (1986-1988 I lived in Iowa City, IA). In 1992 I moved from Chicago to Urbana, Illinois where I have lived and continue to live. I retired after working for 19 years as a high school librarian at Urbana High School. I am not a professional designer, and would assume that my basic design would need professional revising (of course)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I've used some elements of the current flag: horizontal water (for Lake Michigan & state rivers), the sun (energy & hope) but with 21 rays for Illinois being the 21st state, & green for trees, prairie, open spaces. It features gray & white clasped hands for friendship, racial unity, & strength. There's the Chicago skyline left of the sun & residential homes right of the sun. Finally there is Big Bluestem left (original prairie) & corn right (current agriculture) joined by the state's name.

1269

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is similar to others: born and raised. However, my life has taken me to several locations within Illinois: Auburn, Modesto, New Berlin, Peoria, and Springfield. Although it seemed hard at the time, living in these places demonstrated the diversity that Illinois has to offer in urban, suburban and rural communities. It made me appreciate the big adventures and little moments in my life. I never really had much of a hometown, but I had Illinois as my home state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The geometric shape is meant to match the northern border of Illinois, which was shifted with the final bill for statehood. The white color mirrors the original state flag. Three stripes represent the geographic wonder, the Meeting of the Great Rivers, in southern Illinois. Twenty-one rays encompass the rising sun over the three rivers to represent the twenty-first state and new beginnings. The sky blue references the Chicago flag while the indigo stripes reflect the Illinois centennial flag.

1270

Relationship to Illinois

I have many friends from Illinois and traveled to Illinois many times

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Lincoln silhouette is the most iconic symbol of the state. The 21 stars indicates its statehood. The blue stands for the state plays a critical role of the union. The orange stands for the nature and agriculture. And the white stands for the north and also development.



1271



Relationship to Illinois

I have many friends from Illinois and traveled to Illinois many times

Explain the meaning behind your flag

(This is a re-upload of my submission Image ID: 1270 due to image processing software error missing a star)The Lincoln silhouette is the most iconic symbol of the state. The 21 stars indicates its statehood. The blue stands for the state plays a critical role of the union. The orange stands for the nature and agriculture. And the white stands for the north and also development.

1272



Relationship to Illinois

Been living in Illinois since late 2013

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Orange would represent that Illinois is a prairie State,The colors of two main football teams the Chicago bears and fighting Illini (University of Illinois), and it would represent the Illinois is the highest producer of pumpkins in the country, The butterfly which will represent the monarch butterfly and it is the state insect of the state of Illinois, yellow would represent that Illinois is agriculture state. white northern region of the country which hits with a lot of snow

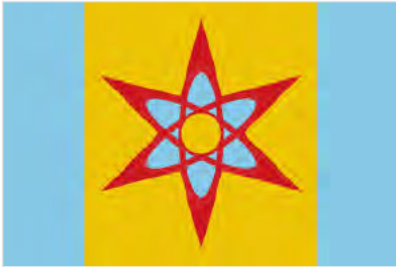
1273

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 1998. I have lived in Illinois longer than anywhere else & have no plans to move. My children are young naturalists, and I have traveled all over the state searching for wildlife and am awed by the surprising beauty of Illinois. Chicago has the best architecture in the world, but downstate has the best trails I've ever hiked, and I moved here from Colorado! Illinois is a Great Lakes state, a Great Prairie state, a Great Cultural state, and a great place to raise a family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The field of amber represents fields of grain, agriculture, & the prairie. The two blue stripes represent the Mississippi River & Lake Michigan. The blue atom-esque symbol represents IL's place in history as an innovator in science, technology, & engineering. The innovative six pointed star was born in Illinois & is a symbol of our place in the world as a center for innovative design. The amber "sun" symbolizes that we are the central hub of the Midwest, that we look to the sky, & to the future.



1274

Relationship to Illinois

i live in illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

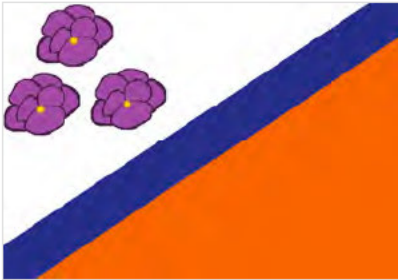
it has stuff that illinois has



1275

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Chicago and raised in Streamwood, Illinois. Graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Served in the Illinois National Guard prior to commissioning and serving on active duty. My whole life has basically been spent in Illinois and I've always wanted to create something to appreciate the state I grew up in and still live in.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The prairie violet as it is the state flower and can grow anywhere in the state, also because one of our nicknames is the prairie state. 7 petals each because we are the 21st state. White from the current flag. A blue strip for all important waterways, the Mississippi, Ohio, and Illinois rivers, and Lake Michigan. The blue stripe cuts across the state how the Illinois river does from the western edge to the northeast. Orange for harvest to celebrate the agricultural prosperity in Illinois.

1276

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Chicago and raised in Streamwood, Illinois. Graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Served in the Illinois National Guard prior to commissioning and serving on active duty. My whole life has basically been spent in Illinois and I've always wanted to create something to appreciate the state I grew up in and still live in.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white oak is the state tree. The leaves have 7 points each to symbolize us as the 21st state. Red because we are one of the most diverse states but every person's blood is red. White from the current flag. A blue strip for all important waterways, the Mississippi, Ohio, and Illinois rivers, and Lake Michigan. The blue stripe cuts across the state how the Illinois river does from the western edge to the northeast. Orange for harvest to celebrate the agricultural prosperity in Illinois.

1277

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Chicago and raised in Streamwood, Illinois. Graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Served in the Illinois National Guard prior to commissioning and serving on active duty. My whole life has basically been spent in Illinois and I've always wanted to create something to appreciate the state I grew up in and still live in.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

7 pointed stars to represent us as the 21st state. Red because we are one of the most diverse states but every person's blood is red. White from the current flag. A blue strip for all important waterways, the Mississippi, Ohio, and Illinois rivers, and Lake Michigan. The blue stripe cuts across the state how the Illinois river does from the western edge to the northeast. Orange for harvest to celebrate the agricultural prosperity in Illinois.

1278

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I grew up on a farm, in the little town of Clayton, where the family raised corn, beans, wheat, pigs, and cows for an income. My mother also worked at a bank and a law office, while my father worked at the Illinois conservation office for a few years. I have lived in Winnetka, Evanston, Chicago, Blue Island, and (now) New Lenox. My spouse and I attended graduate schools here, and we both have been teachers in this state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I kept my visuals simple, to represent the LAND of the state. Although it isn't all flat, a good deal of it is. The blue at the top represents our beautiful sky, while the line of misty white indicates that the area gets adequate rainfall. There is a sprinkling of white at the bottom of the green, which could represent our many wildflowers or our winter snowfalls.

1279

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Design is submitted by Mom on behalf of [REDACTED]. I was born in Texas but moved to Illinois where my mommy was born and lived. I am having fun and love all the seasons and stars. There is a lot to do here and I love the parks.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Design is submitted by Mom on behalf of [REDACTED]. 2 bald eagles, a golden background with green lines. Green for the Illinois prairie. Orange beautiful sunset. Yellow and great temperature and fields. Illinois, which is my favorite state. The seal for our country.



1280

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in this state just about my whole 59 years. My family still owns the farm in Clayton, where we have raised corn, beans, wheat, pigs and cows for 6 decades. My spouse and I attended graduate schools in this state, and have taught here for a combined total of over 60 years. We have lived in Winnetka, Evanston, Blue Island, and (currently) in New Lenox. Through the years, we have enjoyed the city, parks, restaurants, theaters, and many other marvelous opportunities here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Although I kept the colors to black and white, the imagery symbolizes the land and many products of the state. The first letter represents our cities, while the second 2 make up the capital and its attention to the urban and farm needs of its people. Corn, architecture, and wheat are the next products indicated, with Lincoln in the 'O.' The tree is a nod to beautiful parks, while the final letter is partially made of one of our biggest exports. The road leads to our opportunity to work together.



1281

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-I am 36 years old, born in Rockford & have lived in Freeport much of my life with some of my childhood in Albany and Stockton. I am currently unemployed, but have worked four jobs in my entire life, three of which have been in the same line of work which is an Activity Aide in Nursing Homes. I love reading, creative writing, history & genealogy. I saw the ad for the contest on social media & thought it would be fun to submit something that would show off my talents as an amateur artist.



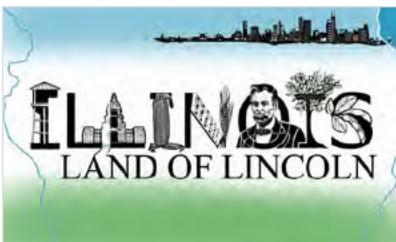
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-Blue background, bottom has green for land & blue for water. Inside the circle are Fort de Chartres left, Cahokia center, & Haymarket Martyrs monument right. They sit on a field of violets with male & female cardinal holding state motto in French. On land is Honest Abe holding a paper (Emancipation Proc or Gettysburg Address) & Jane Addams holding a peace flag. A white-tailed deer stands front & a blue gill jumps from water. Marquette & Joliet in canoe. Many diff. people made this state.

1282

Relationship to Illinois

I loved growing up on my family's farm; where we have raised corn, wheat, beans, pigs, and cows. I lived in Winnetka and Evanston, with my spouse, as we attended graduate schools. As we started teaching, we moved to Chicago, then Blue Island. We now live in New Lenox. We have enjoyed the parks, theaters, restaurants, wineries, sporting events, and other activities the state has to offer. The experiences of farm, city, and suburban life have allowed me to see and to love diversity of our people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I limited my images to objects directly attached to the LAND. The bands of color represent the major colors found in the state, with the water features shown as solid blue. Chicago is in the upper right, near the lake. The letters of the state name show Illinois products, parks (tree), and Lincoln, himself. The capital is split, indicating the divergent attitudes, cultures, and interests of farm and urban areas. However, it is still one building, created in two letters that start out identical.

1283



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived on her soil for 22 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

All the old people complain about taxes so here's a flag to represent that. Orange is for Illinois, blue is for the Union, star is for our place on the US flag, and the IRS logo is for taxes.

1284



Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud native citizen of Illinois. I've been a participant of several Illinois contests in the past, including winning a competition for the Illinois DMV "Life Goes On" Poster Contest in 2020 for my age group.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design features the state animal and flower, white-tailed deer and common blue violets. The 2 feathers that parenthesize the deer represent Illinois' rich history with the native tribes that have lived here. The sunrays behind the deer symbolize the renewal of the state, comparing a sunrise to the flag's redesign, as well as being a callback to the Illinois seal with its own sunrays. The green background represents the agricultural industry and the prairies of Illinois.

1285



Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud native citizen of Illinois. I've been a participant of several Illinois contests in the past, including winning a competition for the Illinois DMV "Life Goes On" Poster Contest in 2020 for my age group.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design features the state bird and tree, the cardinal and white oak, as well as featuring 21 stars to represent Illinois being the 21st state. The dark blue background symbolizes harmony, specifically the harmony between Illinois' cities and nature. The blue also ties in the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan that border Illinois and helped it grow in its early days as a state.

1286

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Wood River, Illinois and attended Roxana High School before going to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. I have lived in St.Louis for the past year, but I am in Illinois on a weekly basis to see friends and family who all still live in the Metro East.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

4 blues stripes=3 major rivers in Illinois (Mississippi, Illinois, Ohio) & Lake Michigan & commerce they make possible. Union blue for Illinois' continuous commitment to United States 3 white stripes & triangle=callback to current flag, for continuity Golden arrow=Illinois' commitment to the future & to being a leader in the Midwest and country. Gold = corn/agriculture & rural areas 21 blue Chicago stars=21st state & urban areas(Would improve spacing on stars if possible, tough on mspaint)

1287

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Wood River, Illinois and attended Roxana High School before going to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. I have lived in St.Louis for the past year, but I am in Illinois on a weekly basis to see friends and family who all still live in the Metro East.



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Explain the meaning behind your flag

4 blue stripes & triangle=4 major rivers in Illinois (Mississippi, Illinois, Ohio, Wabash) & Lake Michigan & commerce they make possible. Union blue for Illinois' continuous commitment to United States 3 white stripes=callback to current flag, for continuity Golden arrow=Illinois' commitment to the future & being a leader in the Midwest & country. Gold = corn/agriculture & rural areas 21 blue Chicago stars=21st state & urban areas (Would improve spacing on stars if possible, tough on mspaint)

1289

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is that I have lived here all of my life - Illinois is the state I know and love. With its beautiful prairies and crops. Our license plates have "The Land of Lincoln" on them so this is always in mind. Lincoln is one of our greatest Presidents by keeping our Union together during and after the Civil War. So allow me to suggest that we have President Lincoln on our flag. Thank you.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois's slogan is "The Land of Lincoln," because we honor Lincoln in Illinois with respect to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield. Lincoln had many important qualities: he was honest, had integrity, had a sense of humor, was a great storyteller, communicator and a compassionate person. Lincoln's most significant accomplishment is leading the Union to victory in our Civil War. Lincoln freed the slaves and was a powerful speaker such as his Gettysburg Address.



1290

Relationship to Illinois

Currently a resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The twenty-one stars on the left side represent the states that were in the Union when Illinois was admitted. The profile of Abraham Lincoln faces toward the right, symbolizing optimism in looking forward to the future. The blue represents the sky, as well as the rivers and Lake Michigan which border the state. The yellow-gold represents the land (prairie) and agriculture (corn) that is ample in the state. The bar of white and the yellow-gold can also represent the "Land of Milk and Honey".



1291

Relationship to Illinois

I live here bro

Explain the meaning behind your flag

meant to capture the true essence of what it means to be an illinoian, has some iconic figures and landmarks from the state



1292

Relationship to Illinois

This is my son talkingFor my entire life I have lived in Illinois and I have a deep connection to it. I was born in right north of Chicago and I've been a proud Illinoian ever since. I am right now 13 years old. I love flags and geography so this opportunity is probably one of the best things to happen this month.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

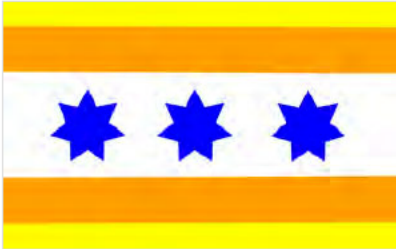
This is my son talkingThe orange represents the brick and mortar the state is built on. The yellow represents the fields of algiculture, especially wheat and corn. White represents the white winters, especially in the north of the state. The blue represents the rivers and lakes, like the Mississippi River and lake Michigan. The star in the middle has 21 points which represents Illinois being the 21st state in the Union. The white and blue is also a callback to the bicentennial flag.



1293

Relationship to Illinois

This is my son talking Now this is different from my other flag submission because I've lived around the Chicago land area my entire life so I wanted this flag to be reflective of that. As I've said before I love geography and flags so this opportunity to submit some flags that could actually be designs is amazing. Right now I'm currently 13.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white represents the blisteringly cold winters of Illinois. Orange represents the brick and mortar the state is built on. The yellow represents the vast fields of wheat and corn in Illinois. The blue represents the lakes and rivers of Illinois. And the three main stars in the middle represent three major events in Illinois history. The Great Chicago fire, being the land of Lincoln, and The world's Fair. Also the seven points add up to 21 which marks Illinois is the 21st state in the Union.

1294

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised, resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is a basic representation of the state of Illinois. 80% of the flag is a green color, which represents the 80% of farmland that makes up Illinois. The rest of the flag is blue, which represents the rivers that run through Illinois making it so important, along with representing Lake Michigan. In the center of the flag, there is a black top hat that represents Abraham Lincoln, which goes along with the state's nickname, Land of Lincoln.



1295

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I still live and work here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue is for the Mississippi River forming our western border, the green is for the Prairie State and our agriculture, and the three white 7-pointed stars are for northern, central & southern Illinois. Together the stars have a total of 21 points, representing Illinois's place as the 21st state to join the Union. The stars are centered and their farthest left tips align with the eastern border of the state.



1296

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I still live and work here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A golden sun rising in a clear blue sky over Lake Michigan. The sun has 21 rays, representing Illinois being the 21st state to join the Union. The two shades of blue also represent the 2 bodies of water that literally and poetically define our state, the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan.



1297

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I still live and work here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star stands for Chicago and northern Illinois, the heart stands for the "Heart of Illinois" of central Illinois, the pyramid stands for "Little Egypt" and southern Illinois. The gold color is for the prosperity and agriculture of the state. The wavy blue third of the map represents the Illinois's waters, including the Mississippi River, Lake Michigan & the St. Lawrence Seaway. The blue and white colors are taken from Illinois's Centennial Flag of 1918.



1298

Relationship to Illinois

I have family in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three six pointed stars in the middle represent the geographic region of Illinois(Northern, Central, and Southern). The diamond represents Illinois state being in the center of the United States. The eight lines that cross into the diamond represent the eight letters in the Illinois name. The orange represents the sun, the blue represents the sky, and white represents the clouds. The saltire represents the rivers in Illinois while the cross represents the railroads in Illinois.



1299

Relationship to Illinois

I have family in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Three stars represent three geographic regions of Illinois(Northern, Central, and Southern). Eight lines going into diamond represent eight letters in Illinois name. Red white and blue represent USA flag because Illinois is considered a bellwether state. Six points represent the five states that directly border Illinois and Lake Michigan. Red Cross represents railroads, white saltire represent rivers.



1300

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student at Putnam County High School in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white background is a tribute to the past flags. Whereas the blue outline of Illinois represents the water throughout our state. The green background color inside of the outline of the state is our land and agriculture. Lastly the red six pointed star is a representation of the Chicago fire, the largest incident of the four stars.



1301

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Central Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Green represents the fertile soil of Illinois, the Yellow represents the vast cornfields and agricultural might of our great state. The Blue represents the sky. The 21 stars represent Illinois being the 21st state. The coat of arms shows the history of Illinois.



1302

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud lifelong resident of the state of Illinois. Born and raised in Springfield, I have been fascinated by our history and especially Abraham Lincoln for as long as I can recall. I attended Southern Illinois University where I studied graphic design. Upon graduation, I returned home to Springfield, where I do multimedia work for the Illinois Education Association and am a union member myself. It is my privilege to support public education in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design symbolizes Illinois from Chicago to Little Egypt, emphasizing Abraham Lincoln's connection to the state. Since Lincoln is a globally recognized figure who spent much of his life here, his likeness fits well on the flag. The blue in the design represents Illinois' natural boundaries — Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The green stripes symbolize the state's historic agricultural roots, representing rows of crops.





1303

Relationship to Illinois

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1304

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design symbolizes Illinois from Chicago to Little Egypt, emphasizing Abraham Lincoln's connection to the state. Since Lincoln is a globally recognized figure who spent much of his life here, his likeness fits well on the flag. The blue in the design represents the natural boundaries of Illinois — Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The green stripes symbolize the state's historic agricultural roots, representing rows of crops.

1305

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state of Illinois my entire life. I was born in Peoria and I currently live in Peoria. I briefly lived outside of Peoria while I attended Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois. I enjoy traveling around the state to visit all of the beautiful parks and trails the state has to offer as well as visiting the great city of Chicago to experience its wealth of culture and entertainment.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stars symbolize the 10 northern and 10 southern states at the time Illinois was admitted to the Union. The blue star is Illinois. The sun over water is symbolic of our relation to great rivers and lakes, also a nod to imagery on the current state flag.

The red stripe signifies our motto - "State Sovereignty, National Union" that waves on red in the current state flag. The shield is referenced in red, white, and blue. The green is "Lincoln Green" and also a nod to our Prairie State nickname.

1306

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised and educated in the state of Illinois. I am a high school Art Teacher at Putnam County High School in Granville, Illinois. I challenged my students to create their own designs to be submitted for the state flag redesign. My students, in turn challenged me to submit my own design for submission.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white field pays homage to the past state flag. The blue lines, represent the waters of Illinois that are important to commerce and recreation in the state, they form an "I" and "L" to identify the state in a subtle way. The gold stripe represents the bountiful harvest of our states agriculture that helps feed the world. The red star taken from Chicago's flag represent the importance of the city to the state, nation and world. The gold surrounding the star, represents the unity of the state.



1307

Relationship to Illinois

RESIDENT FOR 11 YRS. HAVE LIVED HERE SINCE BIRTH

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think we should be using the state bird on the flag

1308

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois - Th colors I chose for my flag are green, blue and red. Green stands for the grass and corn, blue stands for the sky, and red stands for the northern cardinal. The symbols I chose were the northern cardinal. I think these symbols best represent our state because it is the state bird.

1309

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois - The colors I chose for my flag are white, brown and blue. White stands for Lincoln's clothes, brown stands for Lincoln's skin, and blue stands for the main color. The symbol I chose was Abraham Lincoln. I think this symbol best represent our state because Abraham Lincoln was born in Illinois.

1310

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois - The colors I chose for my flag are blue, pink and purple. Blue stands for a lake, pink stands for milkweed, and purple stands for the violet. The symbols I chose were the violet, milkweed and stripes. I think these symbols best represent our state because a violet is our state flower and milkweed is our wildflower.

1311

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



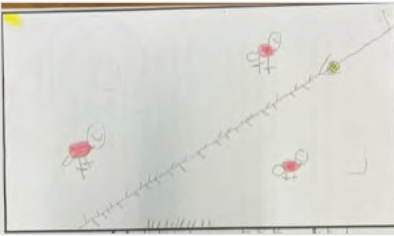
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois - The colors I chose for my flag are red, white and blue. Red stands for the state bird, blue stands for the sky, and white stands for the clouds. The symbol I chose was a cardinal. I think this symbol best represent our state because that is our state bird.

1312

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



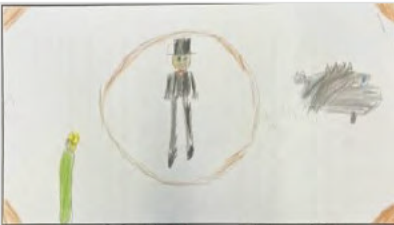
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois - The colors I chose for my flag are red, blue and green. Red stands for a cardinal, blue stands for the sky, and green stands for the grass. The symbols I chose were corn, birds and grass. I think these symbols best represent our state because corn is our state grain, the northern cardinal is our state bird, and grass is for the prairie

1313

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399 The colors I chose for my flag are gold/yellow, brown and white. Gold/yellow stands for corn, brown stands for Abe Lincoln, and blue stands for bluegill. The symbols I chose were bluegill, corn and Abe Lincoln. I think these symbols best represent our state because the bluegill is our state fish, there is lots of corn in Illinois and Abe Lincoln lived in Illinois.

1314

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] colors I chose for my flag are bright blue, gold/yellow, and kelly green. Bright blue stands for the sky, Gold/yellow stands for corn, and kelly green stands for grass. The symbols I chose were monarch butterfly, oak leaf, and corn. I think these symbols best represent our state because the monarch butterfly is our state butterfly, the oak leaf is for our state tree, and sweet corn is our state vegetable.

1315

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are blue, red, and purple. Blue stands for the sky, red stands for the cardinal, and purple stands for light. The symbols I chose were bluegill and the cardinal. I think these symbols best represent our state because the bluegill is our state fish and the cardinal is our state bird.

1316

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are blue, orange and black. Blue stands for the sky, orange and black both stand for the monarch butterfly. The symbol I chose was the monarch butterfly. I think this symbol best represent our state because it is our state butterfly.



1317

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are yellow, green and purple. Yellow stands for corn, green stand for the grass, and purple stands for violets. The symbol I chose was the violet. I think this symbol best represent our state because violets are the state flower.



1318

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are blue, red, green and yellow. Red stands for cardinals, green stand for the fields, and yellow stands for the corn. The symbols I chose were corn, bluegills and cardinals. I think these symbols best represent our state because there are lots of bluegills and cardinals and corn. There is corn everywhere.



1319

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are red, white and blue. Red, white and blue stands for the American flag. The symbols I chose were the bald eagle and the American flag. I think these symbols best represent our state because it represents the United States of America.



1320

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are blue, white and green. Blue stands for the sky, white stands for the bald eagle, and green stands for corn. The symbols I chose were corn and a bald eagle. I think these symbols best represent our state because we have a lot of corn and a bald eagle is our national bird.



1321

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are red, blue and white. Red stands for stripes on the US flag, blue stands for the water, white stands for the stripes on the US Flag. The symbols I chose are stripes, corn stalks, and sunset. I think these symbols best represent our state because we have stripes on our US flag, corn stalks grow crops, and we have sunsets.



1322

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are blue, red and white. Blue stands for water, white stands for the bald eagle, red stands for the USA. The symbols I chose are popcorn, rocks and bald eagles. I think these symbols best represent our state because we have bald eagles, rocks and popcorn.



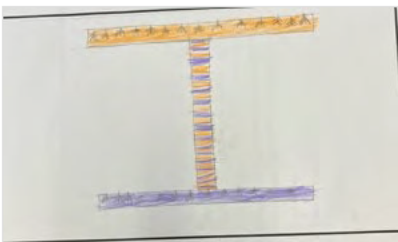
1323

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are orange, blue and black. Orange stands for Milledgeville, blue stands for water, black stands for family. The symbols I chose are corn and the letter "I." I think these symbols best represent our state because corn is healthy and I chose an I for Illinois.



1324

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



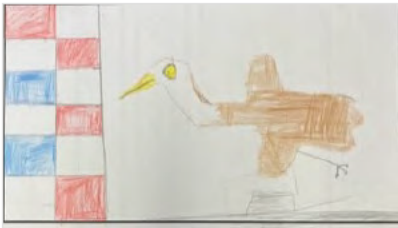
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are green, white and blue. Green stands for the cornstalks, blue stands for the sky, white stands for sides. The symbols I chose are cornstalks, grass and sky. I think these symbols best represent our state because the cornstalks are crops, grass is our land and the sky for us to see.

1325

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are red, yellow and blue. Red stands for the flag, blue stands for the sky, white stands for the beak and eye. The symbols I chose are a flag and eagle. I think these symbols best represent our state because the eagle is a cool bird.

1326

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are green, blue and white. Green stands for grass, blue stands for the sky, white stands for the clouds. The symbols I chose are grass and corn. I think these symbols best represent our state because we have a bunch of farmland and we have a lot of grass.

1327

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are blue, green and yellow. Blue stands for the rivers, green stands for the grass and yellow stands for the corn. The symbols I chose were a star and a white-tailed deer. I think these symbols best represent our state because the white-tailed deer is our state animal and our state shines bright like a star.



1328

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are yellow, green and blue. Green stands for the grass, blue stands for the Mississippi River, and yellow stands for the sun and corn. The symbols I chose were water, corn and sun. I think these symbols best represent our state because we have a lot of sun, the state flower is a violet and we grow corn.



1329

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are green, yellow, and brown. Green stands for the grass, yellow stands for a star, and brown stands for a bald eagle. The symbols I chose were grass, star and bald eagle. I think these symbols best represent our state because we have a lot of grass, star because it shows heaven, and bald eagle represents our state.

1330

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are green, red, and yellow. Green stands for the landscape, red stands for America, and yellow stands for the eagle. The symbols I chose were plants, cherries and the eagle. I think these symbols best represent our state because we have plants everywhere, for the food and for the animals.

1331

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are blue, brown and yellow. Blue stands for the sky, brown stands for the tracks, and yellow stands for the corn. The symbols I chose were water, corn and building. I think these symbols best represent our state because we have cars, corn, river, tracks and Chicago is in our state.

1332

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 3rd grader who attends Chadwick-Milledgeville Elementary School CUSD 399, located in the Northwest portion of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] The colors I chose for my flag are blue, orange, and brown. Blue stands for the lakes, orange stands for the sunset, brown stands for the bald eagle. The symbols I chose were water, sunset and eagle. I think these symbols best represent our state because lakes to represent Lake Michigan, bald eagle to represent America and sun because we have a lot of stars.

1333

Relationship to Illinois

I have grown up in Illinois, and as such I have a great love for the state I'm from and plan to keep living in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange in the middle represents the prairies and farmland that are the heart of Illinois, with the triangle on the side flowing into it representing how the prairies and farmland stretch out across the state and form a solid economic base for Illinois.

The smaller white stripes on either side of the orange stripe represent the unity of Illinois. The blue stripes on the outside represent the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, and the white star in the middle of the triangle represents Chicago.



1334

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I was born in Peoria, IL and have lived in the area for 21 years. I currently work in Champaign for the Illinois Fire Service Institute and am a volunteer firefighter in Brimfield.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design takes some inspiration from the Illinois Centennial design by Wallace Rice. The blue band stretching across the center is in honor of that design utilizing the same color. The red shield is taken from the liberty shield in the Illinois State seal, tying back to the current Illinois flag. The white star in the center of the shield represents the state of Illinois itself.



1335

Relationship to Illinois

I've been visiting Illinois since I was a child, exploring both its cities and natural areas. Just over a year ago, I jumped at the opportunity to move here, and since then, I've grown to love the state even more. Illinois is my home, and I'm excited to contribute to its future with this design.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features three seven-point stars, symbolizing Illinois as the 21st state. The inner circle represents Illinois' urban cores, the outer circle its suburbs, and the rest of the flag reflects the state's rural and natural regions. A dark line weaving between these elements symbolizes the roads, railways, and waterways that unite them. Yellow and green highlight Illinois' agricultural significance and its beautiful prairies.

1336

Relationship to Illinois

I've been visiting Illinois since I was a child, exploring both its cities and natural areas. Just over a year ago, I jumped at the opportunity to move here, and since then, I've grown to love the state even more. Illinois is my home, and I'm excited to contribute to its future with this design.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features three seven-point stars, symbolizing Illinois as the 21st state. The inner circle represents Illinois' urban cores, the outer circle its suburbs, and the rest of the flag reflects the state's rural and natural regions. A dark line weaving between these elements symbolizes the roads, railways, and waterways that unite them. Yellow and green highlight Illinois' agricultural significance and its beautiful prairies.

1337

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I'm proud to have grown up visiting its beautiful lakes and parks. I feel deeply connected to the state, especially through the monarch butterfly, Illinois' state insect, which migrates to Michoacán, Mexico where my family is from. This journey represents my own connection between my roots in Illinois and my heritage in Mexico. My heart and home are in Illinois, where I proudly live.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The thick blue line represents Lake Michigan, while the thin blue lines symbolize Illinois' rivers, reflecting unity through collaboration. The white graphic intertwines violet and milkweed, symbolizing harmony over the prairie. The decorative wrapping honors the eagle from the previous flag and nods to corn, the prairie, and monarch butterfly wings, referencing Carl Sandburg's line, "I am the grass. Let me work," symbolizing resilience and nature's healing.

1338

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident, born and raised in the western suburbs of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

An orange field to represent IL's nation-leading pumpkin industry and other agriculture. Navy blue diagonal stripe for Illinois waterways, flanked by 2 parallel white lines representing Illinois's role as the national rail hub. 21 total stars representing the 21st State:- A center orange star representing Springfield and the capitol-18 5-pointed white stars representing 1818 (statehood)-2 6-pointed white stars representing industry (Chicago and Metro-East)-(18x5) + (2x6) = 102 counties



1339

Relationship to Illinois

I've been visiting Illinois since I was a child, exploring both its cities and natural areas. Just over a year ago, I jumped at the opportunity to move here, and since then, I've grown to love the state even more. Illinois is my home, and I'm hopeful to contribute to its future with this design!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars that form a circle symbolize Illinois as the 21st state. The total points of the two central stars add up to 18, signifying Illinois' statehood in 1818. Yellow represents the state's agricultural heritage and prairies, while blue reflects its waterways.



1340

Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Pearl City, IL from birth to age 19, in Springfield, IL from 19 to 26, and in Chicago from 26 to the present. I love this state from, north to south and east to west.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The left-hand blue stripe symbolizes the Mississippi River, the right-hand blue stripe symbolizes Lake Michigan, and the two centered stars represent the 102 counties in between. The number of points in the two flags is multiplied to equal 102 (6 points x 17 points = 102).



1341

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] and I am 6 years old. I was born in Chicago, and now I live in Glenview. I have lots of friendly friends, and neighbors that I love. I have good teachers. They are the best. My mom and dad helped me make this flag, and I drew it on a piece of paper first. Love, [REDACTED].



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag means that I love the Earth. There are 21 hearts because my dad told me we were the 21st state. I have 6 stars because I am 6 years old. I have the rainbow because I love all the colors. The heart is my two favorite colors, and it has a star in the middle because I like stars. The blue color is the sky. I had fun making this. Love, [REDACTED].

1342

Relationship to Illinois

After college I moved to Illinois in 1984. Except for two years in Iowa City, IA (1986-88) I have lived in Illinois since 1984. I lived in Chicago until 1992 when I moved to Urbana, IL where I have lived ever since. I am a retired public school librarian and a poet.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is the 2nd version of a design I submitted (see Image ID 1268). It uses the water (lakes & rivers), green (trees and fields), and sun (but with 21 rays for the 21st state) of the old state flag. It features a Chicago skyline left of sun & residential homes right of sun). On the right is an ear of corn (for our major product) & on the left is Big Bluestem to honor prairie origins. Clasped hands represent friendship, support and racial diversity. I've improved the lettering of "ILLINOIS."

1343

Relationship to Illinois

After college I moved to Illinois in 1984. Except for two years in Iowa City, IA (1986-88) I have lived in Illinois since 1984. I lived in Chicago until 1992 when I moved to Urbana, IL where I have lived and worked ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is the final version of a design I submitted (Image ID 1268). It uses the water (lakes & rivers), green (trees and fields), and sun (but with 21 rays for the 21st state) of the old state flag. It features a Chicago skyline left of sun & residential homes right of sun). On the right is an ear of corn (for our major product) & on the left is Big Bluestem to honor prairie origins. Clapsed hands represent friendship, support & racial diversity. 3 stars below suggest past, present, and future.



1344

Relationship to Illinois

I have always lived in Illinois. Born in Streator, I have lived in Sandwich, Bloomington, Lyons, Downers Grove, Hanover Park, Schaumburg and Chicago. I have traveled the state of Illinois extensively: north to south, east to west for my work. My mother was raised in Galesburg Illinois. We would visit my grandmother and go to the Carl Sandburg home. My father was born in Morrison IL. When we visited his family, we would go to the Dixon area and visit Ronald Reagan's birthplace.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 stars represent Rivers/Lakes, Plains and Cities. Sky blue represents the rivers and lakes. The Wabash, Ohio, and Mississippi rivers are our state's borders. The yellow is the sun that helps grow our prairie flowers and crops. The stars are six pointed to exemplify our city of Chicago. The upper left corner is three wavy stripes that represent the Illiniwek, a group of 12-13 Tribes who lived from Chicago to the Mississippi Valley as a show of respect for our Native Indian population.



1345

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life: I was born and raised the Chicago suburbs, I went to college at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and the University of Illinois Springfield, and now I work for an Illinois state agency based in Springfield, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's colors are meant to invoke other Illinois state symbols: *Red for the cardinal, the state bird, *Yellow for corn, the state crop, *And purple for the violet, the state flower. It can also stand for purple fluorite. The 21 stars symbolize that Illinois was the 21st state in the Union, with the central red star representing Illinois itself. The stars are arranged in three columns of seven, since seven is considered a lucky number.



1346

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have proudly raised my three children her as well. My deep connection to the state is reflected in our family's love for its diverse landscapes and communities. My 13-year-old son designed this flag, inspired by our shared pride in Illinois' natural beauty, agricultural heritage, and rich history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag Design Description: The blue symbolizes Lake Michigan and Illinois' waterways. White represents prosperity from the industrial sector. The green stripe highlights the state's agricultural heritage and natural beauty. A whitetail deer represents the pride and resilience of Illinois' citizens. The 21 stars mark Illinois as the 21st state, and the green stars emphasize the importance of agriculture to the state's identity.



1347

Relationship to Illinois

I am proud to submit this flag as a lifelong resident of Illinois and an octogenarian. My family's roots run deep in Macomb. Over five generations, we have been involved in agriculture, education, arts and civic life across the state. When my grandson [REDACTED] told me about the call for new flag designs, I was inspired to contribute. This design reflects our family's 200-year history and deep pride in Illinois, bridging our generational and geographic differences.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars honor Illinois as the 21st state, arranged in a circle to signify unity. The background in Old Glory Blue symbolizes natural resources like the Mississippi River and Illinois' hardworking blue-collar roots. Wheat Gold stars represent prosperity, while the central "I" in Prairie Gold embodies the unity of rural and urban Illinois, bridging tradition and progress. I shared this concept with my grandson, who brought it to life and mailed me a printed version to review.

1348

Relationship to Illinois

As a native Illinoisan, founder of the Design Museum of Chicago, and public artist, I've lived and worked across Illinois throughout my life, bridging rural and urban communities. I've exhibited and painted murals from Macomb to Homewood and Chicago, reflecting Illinois' diverse cultural landscapes. My role as an artist and educator, combined with my public service on Chicago's Cultural Advisory Council, allows me to contribute a unique, statewide perspective rooted in design and Illinois pride.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features six squares on the right, representing Illinois' major regions. They are inspired by farmland plots and city blocks, reflecting the state's agricultural roots and urban landscape. The large, hidden 'IL' adds a subtle nod to state pride, reminiscent of hidden elements in iconic logos. The 21 stars, divided between Prairie Green and Old Glory Blue, represent Illinois and the 20 states that came before it. The design embodies Illinois' resilience, adaptability, and character.

1349

Relationship to Illinois

As a native Illinoisan, founder of the Design Museum of Chicago, and public artist, I've lived and worked across Illinois throughout my life, bridging rural and urban communities. I've exhibited and painted murals from Macomb to Homewood and Chicago, reflecting Illinois' diverse cultural landscapes. My role as an artist and educator, combined with my public service on Chicago's Cultural Advisory Council, allows me to contribute a unique, statewide perspective rooted in design and Illinois pride.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 20 points on the radial burst represent the states admitted to the union before Illinois, with the 21st star forming from the others, symbolizing unity. At the heart, the green 'I' reflects Illinois' farmland, while the blue 'L' suggests prosperity and progress. The circular shape on a white background mirrors the current state flag, with the dynamic rays representing movement, innovation, and Illinois' forward-thinking spirit. The colors are Old Glory Blue and Prairie Green.

1350

Relationship to Illinois

As a native Illinoisan, founder of the Design Museum of Chicago, and public artist, I've lived and worked across Illinois throughout my life, bridging rural and urban communities. I've exhibited and painted murals from Macomb to Homewood and Chicago, reflecting Illinois' diverse cultural landscapes. My role as an artist and educator, combined with my public service on Chicago's Cultural Advisory Council, allows me to contribute a unique, statewide perspective rooted in design and Illinois pride.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features 21 stars arranged in a pattern mirroring the US flag, reflecting Illinois' position as the 21st state admitted to the union. The white star at the top left symbolizes Illinois' leadership and prominence. A deep blue field represents the state's natural water resources, including the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, while the Wheat Gold stars evoke Illinois' vast farmlands. The arrangement highlights unity and growth, with the colors creating a modern yet balanced design.

1351

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised the land of Lincoln. No matter this states faults and foibles, I will forever be proud to be from around here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a formal protest of this commission and in favor of retaining the current flag. There are no valid grounds upon which the current flag can be called "bad." The "principals" purveyed by Ted Kaye, NAVA, and the flag reform movement more broadly are pseudoscientific and prey upon people's ignorance of the history and significance of the flag and the great seal that adorns it. Our flag is exceptional and future designs could only succeed it, never replace it. Please do not ruin a good thing.



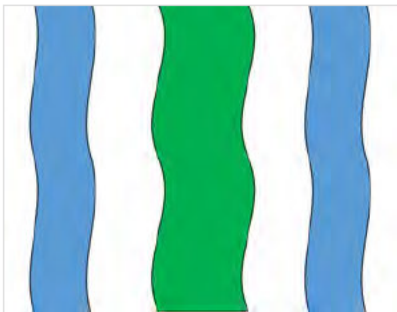
1352

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident for most of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue wavy vertical stripes flanking the central green stripe suggest the outline of Illinois, shaped by rivers on either side. The central green stripe represents Illinois' agriculture, its fertile fields.



1353

Relationship to Illinois

Born in the state and have been a resident for 25 years. Illinois is where I was a child, grew up, and became an adult.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The unusual proportions of the flag showcases the uniqueness of Illinois and that no state can compare. The eagle is from the current flag. Every good flag needs an eagle. The rocky overlook represents the natural beauty that can be found all over illinois. The rocky overlook, the sunrise, and the eagle all combine together to form an "I" for the first letter of Illinois.



1354



Relationship to Illinois

I made Chicago my chosen home 13 years ago and have loved it ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark grey background represents the technology, industry and architecture that has made Illinois great. The green stripes represent the beautiful natural resources as well as the agriculture and farmers that keep Illinois great. The blue stars represent Lake Michigan, the Mississippi, The Ohio, The Illinois, the Fox & the Wabash rivers that have shaped Illinois. Finally, I styled it to be similar the Chicago City Flag so it would compliment the world's greatest city.

1355



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow represents corn and other agricultural outputs grown in Illinois and other midwestern states. The blue represents the waterways in the state and at its borders. The gray bend represents the railroad track connecting the Midwest and its outputs to Lake Michigan and various rivers. Each of the elements combine to show what Illinois has to offer and its vital role in connecting the Midwest to major population centers.

1356

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and have lived my entire life in Illinois. I was schooled in Illinois from kindergarten through university. All of my jobs have been in Illinois. I have never had a job in a neighboring state. Illinois is my home, and I have no intention of relocating to another state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is important to make the flag easily identifiable by including our state name "Illinois" as part of the flag design. The motto is important as well as is including the year IL became a state because statehood is the the beginning of our history. There are 102 stars which represent the 102 counties in IL. This ensures that all residents in our state are represented by the flag. I chose to make the border at the top and bottom of the flag green to represent our nickname "The Prairie State."



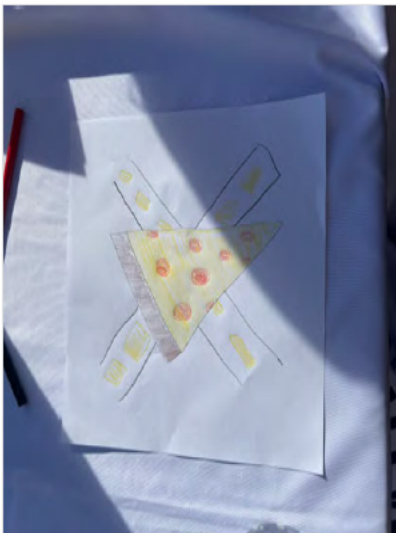
1357

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is known for deep dish pizza and lots of roads



1358

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident. I grew up close to Peoria (Tremont), attended college in Bloomington, first taught music near Rockford (Forreston) and now live in the LaSalle-Peru area (DePue), in my 12th year of teaching.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

These colors -yellow, blue, and green -represent Illinois' physical elements - prairieland, water, and natural landscapes -and also the ways that Illinois residents have utilized those elements-agriculture, commerce, and state parks. The placements of these colors represent the three main areas of Illinois-Central Illinois, Chicago, and Southern Illinois. A simplified map of the state, this simple design, without words or images, can be used in any shape, icon, logo, or other imagery.

1359

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident. I grew up close to Peoria (Tremont), attended college in Bloomington, first taught music near Rockford (Forreston) and now live in the LaSalle-Peru area (DePue), in my 12th year of teaching.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

These colors -yellow, blue, and green -represent Illinois' physical elements - prairieland, water, and natural landscapes -and also the ways that Illinois residents have utilized those elements-agriculture, commerce, and state parks. The placements of these colors represent the three main areas of Illinois-Central Illinois, Chicago, and Southern Illinois. A simplified map of the state, this simple design, without words or images, can be used in any shape, icon, logo, or other imagery.

1360

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident. I grew up close to Peoria (Tremont), attended college in Bloomington, first taught music near Rockford (Forreston) and now live in the LaSalle-Peru area (DePue), in my 12th year of teaching.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

These colors -blue, yellow, and green -represent Illinois' physical elements -water, prairieland, and natural landscapes -and also the ways that Illinois residents have utilized those elements -commerce, agriculture, and state parks. The placements of these colors represent the three main areas of Illinois -Chicago, Central Illinois, and Southern Illinois. This simple design, without words or images, can be used in any shape, icon, logo, or other imagery.

1361

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and currently live in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My state shape flag for a state flag represents the state of Illinois as one state united with all of the other states. Each state can adopt this design system so that each state has their state shape in white on a blue background that represents the white stars on a blue background of the U.S. flag thus making united state flags. The state shape is clear and unique to each state. No words are needed as it is neutral in state representation and it will identify the state as one of many for all.

1362



Relationship to Illinois

I've been an Illinois resident for the past eleven years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

THEME: Hope for All
In this flag:- GREEN band represents Illinois prairies and state nickname, The Prairie State- BLUE band represents the waters that surround and flow through Illinois- WHITE band represents possibility- SUN represents hope for a brighter tomorrow- 12 RAYS OF THE SUN represent the 12 tribes that comprised the original Illinois Nation (Illiniwek)- CIRCULAR BODY OF THE SUN represents resident unity- WHITE STAR represents the state of Illinois

1363



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bird is the Illinois state bird which is the cardinal who is standing on the national snake the eastern milksnake. The yellow is drawn on the Illinois state border representing the agriculture of corn making in Illinois and the blue represents the Mississippi River along the Chicago area. And the leaf on the cardinal's mouth is part of the state tree.

1364



Relationship to Illinois

I've been an Illinois resident for the past 11 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

THEME: Forward Together
Inspired by Wallace Rice's Illinois Centennial Flag (1918)
In this flag:- GREEN band represents Illinois prairies and state nickname, The Prairie State- BLUE band represents Illinois waters (Lake Michigan, rivers)- 20 GOLD STARS + 1 MAIN STAR represent Illinois as the 21st state- WHITE STAR represents resident unity- POSITION OF WHITE STAR represents state's position in the U.S. Midwest- ARROWHEAD FORMED BY GOLD AND WHITE STARS represents looking toward the future

1365

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and currently live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My state shape flag for a state flag represents the state of Illinois as one state united with all of the other states. Each state can adopt this design system so that each state has their state shape in white on a blue background that represents the white stars on a blue background of the U.S. flag thus making united state flags. The state shape is clear and unique to each state. The state abbreviation can be displayed for further identification.



1366

Relationship to Illinois

I've been an Illinois resident for the past 11 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

THEME: Land of Unlimited Possibility
In this flag:-GREEN band represents Illinois prairies and state nickname, The Prairie State- 4 BLUE LINES represent the Lake and 3 rivers bordering Illinois-16 POINTS ON STAR represent Lincoln as 16th President and state slogan (Land of Lincoln)-STAR represents resident unity-WHITE represents our ability to make the future whatever we wish



1367

Relationship to Illinois

Having lived in the neighboring state, I visit Illinois frequently and love it and know that it needs a better flag

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white background serves as both a nod to the old white flag and to the snowy plains of Illinois, the star represents its place as a US state, and the triangular canton represents forward movement, or the march of progress



1368



Relationship to Illinois

I am a current resident of Illinois, where I was born and raised. I grew up in Chicago and I love my hometown and my state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag depicts the state animal, a white-tailed deer, in the center. The deer is standing in grass with a few violets around it, which is the state flower. There is a gold banner above the deer that says "Land of Lincoln" and under the banner is "ILLINOIS" in small print.

1369



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked throughout Illinois the past 15 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Navy background - IL is bordered by Mississippi River, Ohio River, Lake MichiganSun - hope for the futureRolling hills, wheat/bluestem - IL as the prairie state and agricultureStars - progress past/present/future. 21 stars represent IL as the 21st state. The 13 stars after the big star reflect IL as the first state to approve the 13th amendment abolishing slavery - reflects our values for commitment to diversity.

1370



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked throughout Illinois for the past 15 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Navy background - IL is bordered by Mississippi River, Ohio River, Lake MichiganSun - hope for the futureRolling hills, wheat/bluestem - IL as the prairie state and agricultureStars - progress past/present/future. 21 stars represent IL as the 21st state. The 13 stars before the big star reflect IL as the first state to approve the 13th amendment abolishing slavery - reflects our values and commitment to diversity.

1371

Relationship to Illinois

I've been a resident of Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features the Illinois state tree: the white oak. The shield shape is an homage to the current flag. The 21 leaves along the shield symbolize prairies and farmland and mark the fact that Illinois is the 21st state. The 3 stars represent the 3 major geographical divisions of Illinois. The 6-pointed star, an homage to the Chicago flag, represents the Northern division. The light blue bar on the left represents the Mississippi River. The light blue bar on the right represents Lake Michigan.



1372

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and educated in Illinois, and I've been a proud public servant my entire career

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is inspired by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, with the 21 stripes symbolizing the State's agriculture, and the "I" standing in for the skyscrapers of Chicago.



1373

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and educated in Illinois and I have been a proud public servant my entire career

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag shows "1818" split by the image of a firebird, as a nod to the founding of the State and as a recognition that we are on native land. The firebird has often represented a deep connection to the natural world (acknowledging the natural beauty of our State), as well as themes of power, protection, and transformation



1374

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here all my life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tan background represents the prairies of our state. The blue lines represent the rivers of the state, in particular the Illinois river. The thin orange line represents our state's status as the largest producer of pumpkins nation wide, making up 1/3rd of national produce, and more than the next 5 states combined. The purple flower represents the state flower in it's color, and it's 12 points represent the 12 tribes of the Illinois Confederacy. The white deer represents our state mammal.



1375

Relationship to Illinois

Native

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tan background represents the prairies of our state. The blue lines represent the rivers of the state and lake Michigan. The orange represents our state's status as the largest producer of pumpkins nation wide, making up 1/3rd of national produce, and more than the next 5 states combined. The purple flower represents the state flower in it's color, and it's 12 points represent the 12 tribes of the Illinois Confederacy. The thin red line represents our status as a rust belt state.



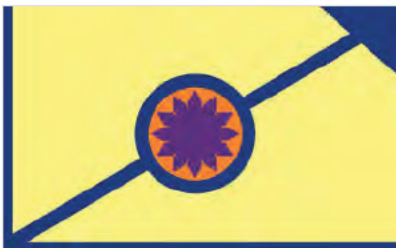
1376

Relationship to Illinois

Native

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tan background represents the prairies of our state. The blue lines represent the rivers of the state, in particular the Illinois river, Mississippi, and the Ohio and Wabash. As well as Lake Michigan. The orange circle represents our state's status as the largest producer of pumpkins nation wide. The purple flower represents the state flower in it's color, and it's 12 points represent the 12 tribes of the Illinois Confederacy. The placement represents Pioria.



1377

Relationship to Illinois

I live here, and I like flags. Chicago has one of the best flags in the entire world, and I'd love it if the state of Illinois could have a great one too.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I want to keep it simple. A child should be able to draw it or trace it, and it should be something that the entire state can get behind. That means downstate as well as people that are in and around Chicago. The meaning of my flag proposal is Lincoln. That's it. We are the land of Lincoln, and the colors are very similar to that of the Chicago Bears. Don't make it any more complicated than that. Seriously, don't. Leave it like this. I said leave it. Don't add to it, leave it.



1378

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I'm rather proud of what this state has come to be.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green is to represent our nickname as the Prairie State. The yellow represents Illinois being one of the top corn producers. The angle makes the illusion of arrows pointing forward, as our state has a history of innovation and continues to act as a leader to our peers. When the flag is turned vertically, with the arrows pointing up, the arrows point to the stars like hills. The 21 stars represents our place as the 21st state. The largest stays in the middle, with the other stars looking up.



1379

Relationship to Illinois

I live here, I love it, it's the best state in the WORLD! It's my home, born and raised on corn.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think America's pretty awesome, I think Illinois is REALLY awesome. It has all the best parts of Illinois. There's the eagles for AMERICA. The cardinal for our state bird. A fire for the great Chicago Fire (not awesome, but it DID happen. Thanks a lot, cows).





1380

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in this state all my life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

trying to bring some pop culture into the flag. I also wanted to highlight some key highlights of IL like spring field and Chicago. (if mine was selected and you wanted me to edit it or add more to it I'll be willing to.)



1381

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in IL

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Wanted to do something fun and highlight some key attractions of IL. I found some designs from google but made them into my own.



1382

Relationship to Illinois

I'm an Illinoisan from southern Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think if we use the same deco has the Illinois anniversary state police car I think that would be a really good look for our state. Let's face it Illinois state flag is outdated.



1383

Relationship to Illinois

born in springfield Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

eagle looking at the lake

1384

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I'm proud to have grown up visiting its beautiful lakes and parks. I feel deeply connected to the state, especially through the monarch butterfly, Illinois' state insect, which migrates to Michoacán, Mexico where my family is from. This journey represents my own connection between my roots in Illinois and my heritage in Mexico. My heart and home are in Illinois, where I proudly live.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The thick blue line represents Lake Michigan, while the thin blue lines symbolize Illinois' rivers, reflecting unity through collaboration. The white graphic intertwines violet and milkweed, symbolizing harmony over the prairie. The decorative wrapping honors the eagle from the previous flag and nods to corn, the prairie, and monarch butterfly wings, referencing Carl Sandburg's line, "I am the grass. Let me work," symbolizing resilience and nature's healing.

1385

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I'm proud to have grown up visiting its beautiful lakes and parks. I feel deeply connected to the state, especially through the monarch butterfly, Illinois' state insect, which migrates to Michoacán, Mexico where my family is from. This journey represents my own connection between my roots in Illinois and my heritage in Mexico. My heart and home are in Illinois, where I proudly live.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The thick blue line represents Lake Michigan, while the thin blue lines symbolize Illinois' rivers, reflecting unity through collaboration. The white graphic intertwines violet and milkweed, symbolizing harmony over the prairie. The decorative wrapping honors the eagle from the previous flag and nods to corn, the prairie, and monarch butterfly wings, referencing Carl Sandburg's line, "I am the grass. Let me work," symbolizing resilience and nature's healing.

1386

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Arlington Heights, raised in Chicago (Lake View), went to high school in Aurora, currently live in Hinsdale.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue: our sky & waterways. Gold: prairies and agriculture. Fleur-de-Lis: from the coat of arms of Lincoln, England (his ancestral home) and symbolizing French settlers: Dusable, Joliet, Lasalle. (No other state flag has a fleur-de-lis, no other national flag uses blue-white-gold, so this design is unique.) The color fields rise & converge: unity of all areas of our state (urban, suburban, rural) driven toward progress together. Follows NAVA flag design principles, easily recognized from afar.



1387

Relationship to Illinois

After a childhood of moving from state to state, country to island, I have finally settled down and been able to call one place home: Illinois. After so many years of migrating, calling the great state of Illinois my home is a blessing and a privilege. Because of this, I would like to give it justice by altering the flag that will better represent it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is primarily red and white since those are the colors of Illinois. As for the deer, it embodies a blend of grace, purity, and spiritual awareness. It represents the ability to move through life and obstacles with ease and gentleness. Something more people should refer to in hard times. On the right is the Chicago skyline and on the left is the Spring Field Capitol for the important history they hold.



1388

Relationship to Illinois

My father and his family are from Illinois.I currently live in Illinois.I attend the University of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars on the flag represent Illinois being the 21st state to enter the Union.The big red star in the center represents Illinois itself. Additionally, it's design is lifted from the flag of Chicago, representing the state's largest city.The yellow shape at the bottom represents the Cahokia Mounds. This acknowledges Illinois's Native American history.The red, white, and blue are colors of the United States. The yellow represents corn. All shades are taken from the current IL state flag.



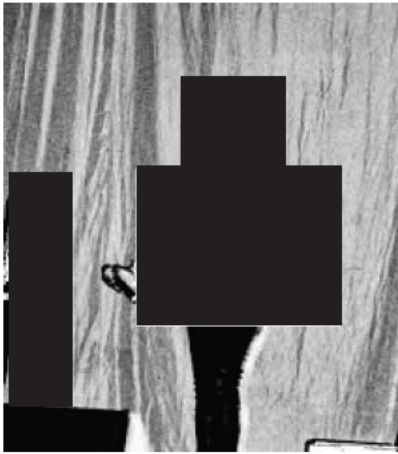
1389

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I need something cool



1390

Relationship to Illinois

i live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

is the goat.



1391

Relationship to Illinois

Met two good friends while online playing from Illinois. Never visited, we lost touch. Hopefully, this can be a little present for them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

State song as a guide. The White oak lives across the State, it is the State. Red is a nod to Big Bluestem grass in the fall. Stylized waves capture the essence of a flat prairie state; represent the great bodies of water that nourish rich soil. They also evoke a gentle movement of the wild grass, dancing in the breeze. Wilderness is colored white for a White-tailed deer. The blue tones shift to violet honoring the state flower. To tie it in, state motto is paraphrased in Lincoln's words.



1392

Relationship to Illinois

Met two good friends while online playing from Illinois. Never visited, we lost touch. Hopefully, this can be a little present for them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

State song as a guide. The White oak lives across the State, be it north, south, dry or wet. It is the State. Oak is colored yellow as the sun that shines above it, and the prairies around it. One-color scheme flag captures the flatness of Illinois landscape. To tie it in, state motto is paraphrased in Lincoln's words, as a modern nod on a US tradition of Great seals.

1393

Relationship to Illinois

Met two good friends while online playing from Illinois. Never visited, we lost touch. Hopefully, this can be a little present for them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

State song as a guide. The White oak lives across the State, it is the State. Red is a nod to Big Bluestem grass in the fall. Stylized waves capture the essence of a flat prairie state; represent the great bodies of water that nourish rich soil. They also evoke a gentle movement of the wild grass, dancing in the breeze. Wilderness is colored white for a White-tailed deer. The blue tones shift to violet honoring the state flower. To tie it in, state motto is paraphrased in Lincoln's words.



1394

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I arrived in Illinois in 1988 as a single mother. My children grew up here and have become outstanding citizens with the help of all the opportunities the state provides. I am extremely proud that Illinois is my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My design features a Native American-our descendants. The buffalo represents how we can all roam free. Lincoln's historic top hat showing Chicago's skyscrapers represents tourism. The owl represents the wisdom to reside here and to spread your wings and soar because all dreams are possible.





1395

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I created this design for a class project, I put the eagle in there so keep the tradition going and I put a american flag in there to represent america and I put the date that Illinois was founded because I think it needs to be part of the flag



1396

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Green represents agriculture & Illinois River, blue represents industry & Lake Michigan. 3 white stars represent what Abraham Lincoln said about democracy: of the people, by the people, for the people. Each star also represents science, technology and culture, as well as hard work, justice and peace. The stars appear to hold hands, symbolizing unity & equality of the people. Position between the left and right stars occupies the middle half of the horizontal plane.



1397

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Green represents agriculture & Illinois River, blue represents industry & Lake Michigan. 3 white stars represent what Abraham Lincoln said about democracy: of the people, by the people, for the people. Each star also represents science, technology and culture, as well as hard work, justice and peace. The semicircular yellow sun represents vitality and a bright future, and beautiful scenery, while the three stars surrounding it symbolize the unity of the people.

1398



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Green represents agriculture & Illinois River, blue represents industry & Lake Michigan. The semicircular golden sun rises from the Illinois River and Lake Michigan, representing vitality, a bright future, and beautiful scenery.

1399



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose this design because the state bird and flower are the cardinal and violet. In Native American cultures the cardinal represents protection and comfort, while the violet represents faithfulness. I believe that Illinois represents and encompasses all of those things and makes everyone feel welcome.

1400



Relationship to Illinois

I live and grew up in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to add the thunder bird to the flag because its the Illinois cryptid, and it also goes off of native American folk lore so it now adds something to the history of Illinois, I also picked out the blue color for the rivers. I added the corn because of the large amount of farming land in Illinois and I added the city, because Illinois was the first place to have the first sky scraper, and the main amount of people live in the city like Chicago .

1401

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois started as a teenager in Denmark, where I made it my goal to someday visit Illinois and, specifically, Chicago (oh, the influence of a Batman movie). When I then went to Purdue University later in life for my Doctorate, I made it a goal to live and work in Illinois because it was the state that most represented the freedoms I'd so thrived from in Denmark; caring about everybody equally. Having lived here for 7+ years, it still does and I love it like I love Denmark.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun rises over the great state of Illinois and you are watching it from the farmland, looking northeast, seeing the water from Lake Michigan in the far distance. The green represents our rich farmland, heritage and growth while the blue is the same color as you'd see on the Chicago flag, signifying hope and progress. The sunrise signifies the growth and prosperity and freedom for everybody, because the sun is ours. The font is vintage, acknowledging that what we have is from what we built.



1402

Relationship to Illinois

MY family moved here from out of state

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I kept some things from the old flag



1403

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline. I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and I am excited to participate in this contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline. The Illinois flag was cool looking but it's time for a change. I drew an American Eagle.



1404

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois started as a teenager in Denmark, where I made it my goal to someday visit Illinois and, specifically, Chicago (oh, the influence of a Batman movie). When I then went to Purdue University later in life for my Doctorate, I made it a goal to live and work in Illinois because it was the state that most represented the freedoms I'd so thrived from in Denmark; caring about everybody equally. Having lived here for 7+ years, it still does and I love it like I love Denmark.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun rises over the great state of Illinois and you are watching it from the farmland, looking northeast, seeing the water from Lake Michigan in the far distance. The green represents our rich farmland, heritage and growth while the blue is the same color as you'd see on the Chicago flag, signifying hope and progress. The sunrise signifies the growth and prosperity and freedom for everybody, because the sun is ours. The font is vintage, acknowledging that what we have is from what we built.



1405

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline. I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and I am excited to participate in this contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline. The Illinois flag was cool looking but it's time for a change. I drew the buffalo because I think it is majestic. It represents the strength of our country.



1406

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois started as a teenager in Denmark, where I made it my goal to someday visit Illinois and, specifically, Chicago (oh, the influence of a Batman movie). When I then went to Purdue University later in life for my Doctorate, I made it a goal to live and work in Illinois because it was the state that most represented the freedoms I'd so thrived from in Denmark; caring about everybody equally. Having lived here for 7+ years, it still does and I love it like I love Denmark.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun rises over the great state of Illinois and you are watching it from the farmland, looking northeast, seeing the water from Lake Michigan in the far distance. The green represents our rich farmland, heritage and growth while the blue is the same color as you'd see on the Chicago flag, signifying hope and progress. The sunrise signifies the growth and prosperity and freedom for everybody, because the sun is ours. The font is vintage, acknowledging that what we have is from what we built.



1407

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline. I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and I am excited to participate in this contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline. The Illinois flag was cool looking but it's time for a change. I drew the new flag with the sun and the grass. I think that is beautiful and welcoming.



1408



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline.I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and I am excited to participate in this contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline.The Illinois flag was cool looking but it's time for a change. I drew this picture because an eagle represents our country and should be respected. It is holding a US flag as we are the best country in the world.

1409



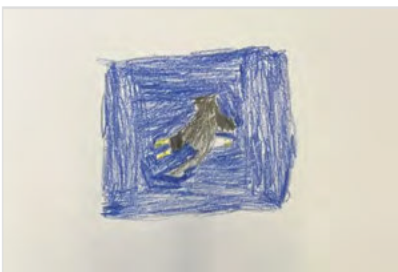
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline.We are both lifelong residents of Illinois and are excited to participate in this contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline.The Illinois flag was cool looking but it's time for a change. We drew a mountain because they are majestic and beautiful. We chose an eagle because it's our country's symbol and should be respected.

1410



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline.I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and I am excited to participate in this contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline.The Illinois flag was cool looking but it's time for a change. I chose the Eagle because it is an amazing bird and I would love to see it on our flag.

1411



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline.I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and I am excited to participate in this contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline.The Illinois flag was cool looking but it's time for a change. I thought the flag could use a change and I love dinosaurs.

1412



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline.I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and I am excited to participate in this contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline.The Illinois flag was cool looking but it's time for a change. I picked the eagle because it's a symbol of American pride. It should be respected and everyone should see it on our flag every day.

1413

Relationship to Illinois

I was born & raised in Central Illinois. My hometown, Havana, has 3,000 people & is a rural community. Havana is a small town, but to me, it & other rural towns throughout the state, have great importance to the identity of Illinois & its history. I have visited cities in the state such as Springfield, Peoria, & Chicago. These are some of many cities that have major stakes in the heritage of Illinois; & with rural pockets of the state, all come together and encompass the Land of Lincoln.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stars represent being the 21st state in the Union. The 3 blue sections represent the Illinois & Mississippi Rivers, & Lake Michigan; and how each water way was vital in building the history of Illinois. The Y-symbol ties in Chicago with its history and geographic importance to the Land of Lincoln. The yellow and green stripes represent the importance of agriculture and nature rooted in the history & current moment of the Prairie State.



1414

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline. I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and I am excited to participate in this contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline. The Illinois flag was cool looking but it's time for a change. I drew a deer because we see deer around here a lot and they look gorgeous! The deer will represent for all the animals that live here.



1415

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline. I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and I am excited to participate in this contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] from Wilson Middle School in Moline. The Illinois flag was cool looking but it's time for a change. I drew the eagle because it is a beautiful symbol of our country. I think it should be respected.



1416

Relationship to Illinois

Born in IL. Raised in New Lenox, IL. Went to University in Bloomington-Normal, IL. Currently raising a family in Chicago. Suburban - Rural - Urban.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Black = Industry rising up from horizon
Yellow = Agriculture as an inverse shadow of urban life
Green = Suburban green space and nature
Blue line = Important and historical water sources of Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, but subtle factoid of this future flag for those who don't notice
Design - classic flag pattern using primary colors. Same font and founding date for "Illinois" from the current flag.



1417

Relationship to Illinois

Born in IL. Raised in New Lenox, IL. Went to University in Bloomington-Normal, IL. Currently raising a family in Chicago. Suburban - Rural - Urban.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Gray = Industry rising up from horizon
Yellow = Agriculture as an inverse shadow of urban life
Green = Suburban green space and nature
Blue line = Important and historical water sources of Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, but subtle factoid of this future flag for those who don't notice
Design - classic flag pattern using primary colors. Same font and founding date for "Illinois" from the current flag.

Urban/Suburban/Rural intersect at Springfield, the state capital.



1418

Relationship to Illinois

Born in IL. Raised in New Lenox, IL. Went to University in Bloomington-Normal, IL.
Currently raising a family in Chicago. Suburban - Rural - Urban.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Black "I" = Industry (in shape of an "I" or building, rising up from horizon - intentionally uncentered)
Yellow = Agriculture as an inverse shadow of urban life
Green = Suburban green space and nature
Blue line = Important and historical water sources of Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, but subtle factoid of this future flag for those who don't notice
Design - classic flag pattern using primary colors. Replacing word Illinois with an "I", familiarized in the US by the popular Colorado flag

1419

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years I was born and raised here I am in 6th grade and would love to make history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I would love to have equality in Illinois no matter the race sex or difference. I reused the original photo because it is the original one and it looks super nice.

1420

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois all my life and I currently live in Woodridge, IL as a graphic designer for a flag company.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue represents Illinois' rivers and lake. The flag is divided into 3 sections representing the North, Central, and South of Illinois and the 21 stars represents Illinois being the 21st state to join the US



1421

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here I love the state I am a student and I would like to share this flag I created with you,

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I added a cardinal in the center because that's the state bird, There is a 21 pointed star to symbolize that Illinois is the 21st state. I also added 2 blue lines to represent the Illinois river.



1422

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a queer person from a red state. I moved to Illinois as an adult. Illinoisans have welcomed me far more than my state of origin ever did. This is my adopted home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A white background with the Mississippi River on the left/west side, and the red, six-pointed star of Chicago in the top right/northeast.



1423

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived most of my life in Illinois. Some of my ancestors migrated here in the 1860s, farming downstate. I have a fondness for flags and, besides the Stars & Stripes, fly flags of my ancestral nations and historical flags related to the American Revolution.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue & Orange, also the colors of the University of Illinois, symbolize the Lakes & Rivers of Illinois (the Blue) and the corn, soybeans and pumpkins of its agriculture (the Orange). The Blue vertical band suggests the capital I of Illinois. The 3 wavy bands symbolize the water (white) and the rich soil (black). The 21 crests of the 3 bands represent Illinois's status as the 21st state. The color scheme is distinctive among American state flags.

1424

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived most of my life in Illinois. Some of my ancestors migrated here in the 1860s, farming downstate. I have a fondness for flags and, besides the Stars & Stripes, fly flags of my ancestral nations and historical flags related to the American Revolution.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue & Orange, also the colors of the University of Illinois, symbolize the Lakes & Rivers of Illinois and the corn, soybeans and pumpkins of its agriculture. The jagged White & Blue stripes suggest geometric motifs used by the Illiniwek Confederacy and the capital I of Illinois. The 21 Right Angles produced by the juxtaposition of the Blue, White & Orange represent Illinois's status as the 21st state. This color scheme is unique among American state flags.

1425

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived most of my life in Illinois. Some of my ancestors migrated here in the 1860s, farming downstate. I have a fondness for flags and, besides the Stars & Stripes, fly flags of my ancestral nations and historical flags related to the American Revolution.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue & Orange, also the colors of the University of Illinois, symbolize the Lakes & Rivers of Illinois and the corn, soybeans and pumpkins of its agriculture. The jagged White & Blue stripes suggest geometric motifs used by the Illiniwek Confederacy and the capital I of Illinois. The differing proportion of colors is dynamic. The 21 Right Angles produced by the juxtaposition of the Blue, White & Orange represent Illinois's status as the 21st state. No other state flag uses these colors.

1426

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here almost my whole life and while I've had some interesting experiences, I'm quite fond of this state. Even more so in recent years, given the turmoil in some parts of the USA, it's like an oasis, something to be more proud of.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The gear represents innovation and progress. Silver represents commitment and success. Rising sun imagery is to represent heading towards a better future while setting down the past (moving on but not forgetting). The blue is a reference to the fact Illinois was a union state and the trust between the government and its people. Green represents the rich prairie land and prosperity. The railroad represents both Abraham Lincoln and the deep connection between railroads and Illinois.



1427

Relationship to Illinois

My specific relationship with the Prairie State lies in the fact that this is the only major state I have called home since my birth in 2005. While numerous other states in our grand union of fifty states are also quite attractive alternatives, there is no other state I would be willing to see serve the purpose of home than this precise one I've called home for all my life thus far. Having lived here for so long, I have genuinely cared about seeing our state flag uniquely represent us.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag redesign, named the Fleur-de-nois flag, symbolizes Illinois' history. The red, white, and blue colors, along with the Fleur-de-lis, represent the three major nations Illinois was once part of, France, Britain, and the United States. The 21 stars in a concentric circle in the white sector signify Illinois as the 21st state to join the union. The stylized red, six-pointed stars nod to the Chicago municipal flag, highlighting the state's most notable city and the state's rich history.



1428



Relationship to Illinois

I currently am a resident of the south side of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag displays the unity that is formed in Illinois by the northern cardinal, the Illinois state bird, standing on the tip of the nose of the white-tailed deer, the Illinois state animal. This connection shows the bond that happens in Illinois. I used the shield to represent the strength that we have and the American flag to reference the United States of America. I put 1818 the year Illinois was founded.

1429



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Explain the meaning behind your flag

My second flag redesign, the Prairie State Triband, reflects Illinois' history from French territory to statehood. The vertically arranged white and blue triband colors nod to the 1918 centennial flag by Wallace Rice, the designer of the Chicago municipal flag. The Fleur-de-lis symbolizes French rule under New France, while the 20-star concentric circle with the 21st star in the central white disk represents Illinois as the 21st state to enter the union in 1818.

1430

Relationship to Illinois

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1431

Relationship to Illinois

I currently am a resident of the south side of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag displays the unity that is formed in Illinois by the northern cardinal, the Illinois state bird, standing on the tip of the nose of the white-tailed deer, the Illinois state animal. This connection shows the bond that happens in Illinois. I used the shield to represent the strength that we have and the American flag to reference the United States of America. I put 1818 the year Illinois was founded.



1432



Relationship to Illinois

So, I live in Illinois, for all my life I haven't lived in one state, Illinois to me, is my favorite, I love it, and I am proud to be born in Illinois, this state has to be one of the best states. (Also I did this on a website <https://flag-creator.com/> so I made the flag on their website)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red stripes represent the stripes on the American Flag, the 21 stars represent how Illinois was the 21st State.

1433



Relationship to Illinois

So, I live in Illinois, for all my life I haven't lived in one state, Illinois to me, is my favorite, I love it, and I am proud to be born in Illinois, this state has to be one of the best states. (Also I did this on a website <https://flag-creator.com/> so I made the flag on their website, and my other flag was the wrong flag, but the new is there)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red stripes represent the stripes on the American Flag, the 21 stars represent how Illinois was the 21st State.

1434



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois, I love Illinois, and I am proud to be one (Note that is my third attempt, I'm so sorry, I counted the stars wrong by one.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red stripes represent the red stripes on the American flag, 21 stars for the 21st state which is Illinois.

1435

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois, current resident



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The new Illinois flag has a bold red background, symbolizing the state's vibrant energy and unwavering resolve, a striking blue arrow points toward progress the color pays homage to the vital role played by Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River in shaping the state's prosperity, anchoring the arrow is a white five-pointed star, representing unity, hope, and the strength of Illinoisans. This flag design celebrates Illinois' dynamic past while conveying our enduring drive toward a bright future

1436

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived all over this state from St. Louis suburbs to central IL (Eureka) to Rockford. I am a graduate of the University of Illinois Rural Medicine Program and now practice full time family medicine in small town NE IL.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I liked the idea of using the slogan "Land of Lincoln" in the imagery of the state flag. One that could be reproduced and easily identified. Surrounding this imagery is 21 stars to signify the 21st state to join the Union. I chose blue/orange as frequent uses in our state for beloved teams (Bears, Illini) and represent water (Lake Michigan, IL River, MS River) and harvest.

1437

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Joliet, and have always been interested in why the Illinois flag seemed so unattractive in comparison to other flags I had seen. A few years ago, I stumbled upon the "Good Flag, Bad Flag" article by the North American Vexillological Association and realized why I didn't like the flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design was a reference to the geography of Chicagoland. The green represents the land and forests of Illinois. The specific shade of blue refers to the Chicago flag, represents Lake Michigan, and references Lincoln (blue was his favorite color). The white stripe references the current white background of the flag and also represents a transition to something new. The each point of the gold star represents a crop that makes up the agriculture of the state: Corn, Soy, Wheat, Pumpkin, and oats.

1438

Relationship to Illinois

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1439

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Joliet, Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue references Chicago flag, Lake Michigan, and Abraham Lincoln's favorite color. White references current flag's background and represents a transition to something new (hence its position between the blue and green). Green represents land and forests of Illinois, along with the national parks. 5 point gold star represents the agriculture of Illinois, with each point representing a major crop (corn, wheat, soy, pumpkins, and oats). Horizontal stripes are a classic and reference to a former flag.

1440

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Joliet, Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue references Chicago flag, Lake Michigan, and Abraham Lincoln's favorite color. White references current flag's background and represents a transition to something new (hence its position between the blue and green). Green represents land and forests of Illinois, along with the national parks. 5 point gold star represents the agriculture of Illinois, with each point representing a major crop (corn, wheat, soy, pumpkins, and oats). The diamond is a more unique and eye-catching design.

1441

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Batavia, Illinois having lived within this great state up until recently. My partner and I are planning on moving back within the next year however, as we both have our families in the state, and Illinois has a special place in our hearts. Illinois has provided me with a great education, an amazing culture, and appreciation of history, both for our country and our state. I hope to be able to convey this pride through the design I provide.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Yellow Wheat represents the farm industry within Illinois, which is a huge part of our State Economy. The stars in the wind turbine represent our place as the 21st state to join the Union, our Star being placed in the middle amongst 20 stars. The Wind Turbine represents our growing usage of Wind Power as energy, but also as a symbol of us as a state, as Illinois is always adapting as we head into the future.



1442

Relationship to Illinois

Born, raised, and entire life thus far a resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A deep blue on the left to represent the mighty Mississippi River. A deep blue on the right to represent the Great Lake Michigan. Gold/yellow in the middle representing the great plains colors of corn, wheat, and the agriculture of our state. The white feather, a symbol of peace and calming times from the Illiniwek tribe, which our state is named after.



1443

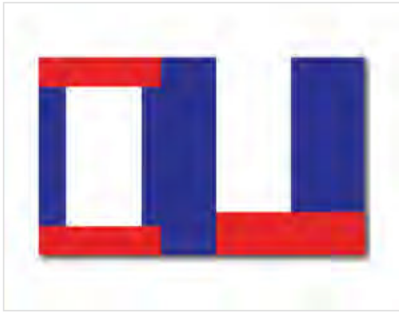
Relationship to Illinois

Lived here almost my whole life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I kept the traditional Red, White and Blue. I added Abe Lincoln since it's the land of Lincoln.





1444

Relationship to Illinois

I've grown up in Illinois and I've participated grades pre k-12 in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think it will represent Illinois because I added a IL to my flag to let everyone know that it's the state of Illinois.

1445

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Brian Mansberger, and I am a resident/citizen of Illinois in Chicago. My wife and I moved here from Michigan in 2011 in search of better opportunities and happily found them. This is where we also gave birth and have raised our two daughters, who attend public schools in the city.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

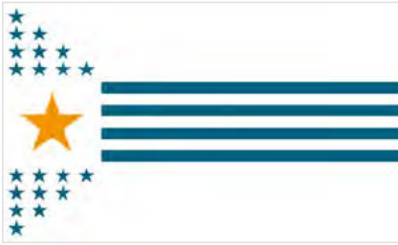
Great Illinois, the Inland HavenThe color white is retained from the current state flag, displaying the peaceful and friendly intentions of the state.The color blue is used to symbolize the Union that was defended by Lincoln and Illinois, and these four major water bodies of the state: Lake Michigan, the Mississippi, the Wabash/Ohio and the Illinois river.Three white stripes for northern, central and southern Illinois, coming together.A bright orange star for optimism. More info available.



1446

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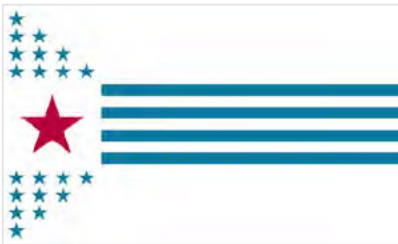
Explain the meaning behind your flag

Modern update of Wallace Rice Centennial Flag of 1900 (dark blue/orange version) Retaining the symbolism of Wallace Rice's great design, the central strip is split into 4 to represent the major water bodies of the state (Lake Michigan, Mississippi, Wabash/Ohio and the Illinois River), with three white stripes for the geographical regions of northern, central and southern Illinois. An orange star for optimism. More info available.

1447

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

Modern update of Wallace Rice Centennial Flag of 1900 (bright blue/red version) Retaining the symbolism of Wallace Rice's great design, the central strip is split into 4 to represent the major water bodies of the state (Lake Michigan, Mississippi, Wabash/Ohio and the Illinois River), with three white stripes for the geographical regions of northern, central and southern Illinois. A bright red star for optimism with bright blue; colors inspired by the state license plate. More info available.

1448

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Waukegan, Illinois and have lived in Grayslake, Illinois all of my life with the exception of attending college at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois.

My father's family arrived in Illinois in the mid 1800's so the history of Illinois and my ancestors are of great interest to me. Side note: This system does not accept hyphenated last names. My correct last name is Tiffany-Hansen.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Before I started creating a design, I reviewed the Colorado, Texas and New Mexico flags which are simple in design and are regarded as examples of good flag design. My design is also a simple one which includes five stars with each star representing a high-level historic point in time from the beginning to where we are today. 1. Ice Age 2. Human settlement 3. Rural communities 4. Urban communities 5. Suburban communities.



1449

Relationship to Illinois

My friends have lots of family from Illinois, so I thought this would be a fun thing to do to surprise them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used the three colors and star to represent it being part of the united states, But i changed it up to make it unique, just like Illinois



1450

Relationship to Illinois

I moved here in 2022 after falling in love with the girl who worked at the hotel I stayed at a few months earlier --she and I have been together ever since. I am now a resident of the city of Peoria, having secured my driver's license and voter registration earlier this year. I work for Peoria County's Communications Department.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green is for our state's agriculture and the liveliness of Illinois. Blue is for our skies and water, from Lake Michigan to where the Ohio River meets the Mississippi, representing tranquility and endless opportunity. The singular star represents the uniqueness yet togetherness of every community. The 21 grains on the wheat represent Illinois being the 21st state. When displayed horizontally, the wheat makes a "U" for "unity" while the blue becomes an "I" for --of course-- "Illinois."

1451

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident who was born in DeKalb, IL and am a graduate of DeKalb High School and Columbia College Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag uses a tricolor design, with blue representing the state's waterways, gold representing the state's agriculture and prairies, and green representing the forests of Southern Illinois. The union shield is placed in the forefront as a symbol of the state's Civil War history. On the top the shield are 21 stars, indicating Illinois' status as the 21st state. On the bottom are three gold fleurs-de-lis from the French Bourbon flag, recognizing the state's origin as a territory of New France.



1452

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Mattoon, IL, I benefited from the rich educational and cultural offerings across Central Illinois, exploring its museums and historic sites. I earned a degree in Industrial Design from the University of Illinois at Chicago, where I developed a strong connection to the city's vibrant art and culture. Currently, I am the Creative Manager at the Mattoon-based Rural King, using my experiences across both rural and urban Illinois to shape my work.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design features a stylized thunderbird on a blue field, evolving our current eagle while honoring Illinois' indigenous heritage with a unique symbol. 20 stripes make up the bird's feathers and represent the 20 states that preceded Illinois's admission to the Union. A single star embodies Illinois itself, spotlighting its star on the U.S. Flag. The chosen colors reflect the flags of the U.S., Chicago, and Illinois, embodying unity, progress, and the resilience of the Prairie State.

1453

Relationship to Illinois

I'm native to Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I am Native American. My ancestors traveled through Illinois before Europeans even visited. This flag is in respect of all the original people from here, that fought for their freedom, people and way of life.





1454

Relationship to Illinois

I'm native to Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I'm indigenous. Our people respected nature and the monarch butterfly are travelers like us. The monarch butterfly is extremely important especially because they are dying out. This flag is in respect of the first native people and our beautiful nature.



1455

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Elmwood Park, Illinois, I've always felt a deep connection to this vibrant state. After attending Northern Illinois University, I chose to remain in Elmwood Park, where I met my wife in the bustling heart of Chicago. Like me, she's a lifelong Illinois resident, and together we're proud to raise our son, who is currently thriving at St. Ignatius College Prep. We love everything about living here, and we look forward to being a part of Illinois for the foreseeable future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design features the Star of Progress at its center, composed of three seven-pointed stars representing Illinois' three major regions: Northern, Central, and Southern. The total of twenty-one points signifies IL as the twenty-first state in the Union. Flanking the star are three striped arrows that create a horizon line, guiding the viewer toward the Star of Progress, symbolizing a bright future. The vibrant colors reflect ILs' spirit, with bright blue honoring Chicago, our largest city.

1456

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design features a striking stars and stripes motif that embodies the essence of Illinois. The three seven-pointed stars, totaling twenty-one points, not only signify Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union but also represent its three regions: Northern, Central, and Southern. The light and dark blue colors symbolize the Mighty Mississippi and Lake Michigan, while the green stripe represents the Prairie State. The yellow stripe pays homage to our state's rich agricultural heritage.

1458

Relationship to Illinois

This is the state I was born in, grew up in, & live in. I consider myself very lucky to live in such a diverse state and to have seen much of it; the hills of the western Mississippi bluffs, the architecture and parklands of Chicago, the shipping barges on the Illinois river, the incredible history at Cahokia, the comfortable mundanity of riding the Metra through farmlands and suburbs and city. Illinois is so much more than another state in the union and I think it deserves a flag to show that.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green and yellow were chosen to represent the abundant greenery and farmland as well as their symbolic meanings of hope and optimism. The blue is used to represent the waterways; lake Michigan & the many rivers of Illinois (including the Mississippi). The white (or silver) is representative of industry; the train tracks that start and end in the stone and metal of Chicago, the galena mined in the west, the dairies, the limestone clad buildings. The star is, of course, for Illinois itself.

1459

Relationship to Illinois

I have spent almost everyday of my life in this state. Born near the city but later on around age 8 we moved from Brookfield to wauconda Illinois and since then I've primarily lived in the lake and Mchenry county area.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I've primarily chosen state symbols for the flag. My goal was to give it a soft and friendly feeling. The cardinal being a symbol for renewal which is what a new flag should bring. The violate is the state flower so I thought since a lot of flags don't usually use their flower. The monarch symbolizes rebirth since they come back every spring. I wanted to keep the land of Lincoln on it as that is a really key part of state branding.

1460

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1461

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is really the importance and improvement that I brought upon the journey I had since a young kid at 14. So I have the motive or proper action to get my life in another city probably not Illinois. So yeah the Illinois flag could use a fixing or two.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind it is so that the flag reflects of the city of Chicago rather than the past complications of Illinois. So it really stands out for the look of it but it's really the color of it but the representation it gives and gets. It'll be highly appreciated to win this contest to have Chicago know the person who did it, and it comes from from my own talent that I gave this flag my all.



1462

Relationship to Illinois

A fourth-generation Illinoisan, I was born in Downers Grove and I grew up in Grundy County. After high school, I enlisted in the U.S. Navy and completed two deployments aboard USS Carl Vinson, where I once had the chance to fly an Illinois state flag from one of the yardarms of the ship. After my service I returned to Illinois, earning a history degree from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2022. I am currently a graduate student at Illinois in the College of Media.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is inspired by Wallace Rice's Centennial flag but introduces new symbolism for Illinois's past, present, and future. Its three sections represent the state's geographic regions, with blue for Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The stars reflect Illinois's status as the 21st state, and the central octagram star honors its role as a meeting place of regions, people, and ideas. The gold of the octagram and stripes symbolize agricultural wealth, evoking ripe corn and sunlight.

1463

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and raised in Illinois it would be an honor to change the Illinois flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's Abraham Lincoln with eagle on his shoulder and for a background of the flag of the USA.



1464

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I live there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue is for the sky. The green is for the ground. The cardinal is our state bird. The Barn represents our farms, and the skyscraper represents our cities



1465



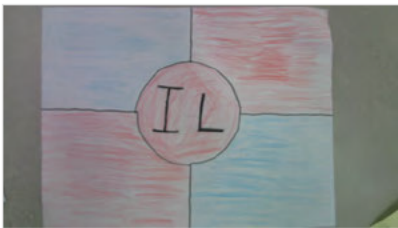
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I have no familial or personal connection to Illinois but I would be happy to help create their next flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The design proportions are not finalized, but a good way to show what is inside my head. Colours are inspired from the current flag, forest green, navy blue or bright golden yellow. 21 star circle represents Illinois' status as 21st state in union.

1466



Relationship to Illinois

I grew up here and some of my family live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It has red and blue for the US and IL is the initials.



1467

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I have mostly lived in Marseilles, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included an outline of the state. I filled the state with blue red & white stripes to represent our connection to the United States.



1468

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with illinois is IVE been living in illinois since I was a baby.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to represent illinois



1469

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here my whole life living in Marseilles, Morris, and Seneca

Explain the meaning behind your flag

i put in the eagle coming out of the state because the eagle is the country's bird then the american flag because were in america



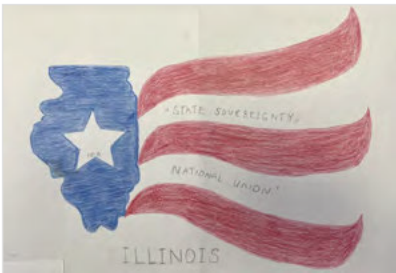
1470

Relationship to Illinois

I lived her my hole life I have been up in Chicago multiple times and both of my papa was in the military Marines

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is manly the Illinois military and rascally my papa dies who was a retired military Marines to Cancer.



1471

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I was born in Alton, Illinois on [REDACTED] and have been a lifelong resident. I'm retired now and live in Godfrey.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -the theme of my entry is our state motto: "State Sovereignty, National Union." The blue ground, in the shape of our state, represents our sovereignty. The waving red stripes are a nod to "Old Glory" and the national union. I'm an old D.A.R. patriot. It would give me great joy to be a part of Illinois history.



1472

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and It's a school project.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Gold on my flag means wealth, prosperity, and high quality. Blue and the stars mean freedom, justice, and peace. The red means courage and strength.

1473

Relationship to Illinois

While I now live in Texas, I grew up outside the Quad Cities, graduated from H.S. there and attended Southern Illinois University - Carbondale. My parents and a brother still live in IL, I lived in Bloomington for several years, and we own a property in Chicago. Illinois is 'home.'



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue edges symbolizing the Mississippi, Ohio, & Wabash Rivers and Lake Michigan
Yellow rolling hills of southern Illinois and the prairies
Green fields & trees
Black on top for the Chicago skyscrapers and Lincoln's top hat
1818 year of statehood
Stars for 3 state capitals, the bell symbolizing the 1st, Kaskaskia and the Liberty Bell of the West
Stars are blue across the middle for the rivers that flow through the state
"Illinois" in dark red for a common color used by the native tribes of IL

1474

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is not very army wise but my grandpa worked for the navy and I want to be in the Marines beside barrel racing. Illinois is where I was born at Silver cross hospital. I've lived in Illinois for 11 years and many to come!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is very important to me my grate grandpa died in the navy.

1475

Relationship to Illinois

i am an illinios residence



Explain the meaning behind your flag

the stars represent the people and the colors represent freedom



1476

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. I've lived here for 4 years. I go to high school in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose blue and white and showed a skyline of Chicago.



1477

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I was born and raised in Towanda, Illinois. I lived in Illinois throughout my life except for the three years I spent in military service. I am 75 years old, married, retired and enjoying life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -This first design shows an outline of Illinois with Abraham Lincoln's silhouette in the center. The three words around Illinois shows three things Illinois is known for: Agriculture, Commerce, and Community. I put Illinois on the design because I felt that it finalized what state it is.



1478

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I was born and raised in Towanda, Illinois. I lived in Illinois throughout my life except for the three years I spent in military service. I am 75 years old, married, retired and enjoying life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -This design has the red, white and blue stripes and a silhouette of Lincoln, along with the year Illinois became a state.

1479

Relationship to Illinois

My father and his family are from Illinois. I currently live in Illinois. I attend the University of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars represent IL being the 21st state. The big red star represents IL itself. Additionally, its design is taken from the star seen under the Capitol Rotunda in Springfield. The points on the red stars total up to 18, representing 1818, the year that IL joined the Union. The yellow shape at the bottom represents the Cahokia Mounds. This gives a nod to IL's Native American History. Red, white, and blue are colors of the USA. Yellow represents corn. All colors are from current IL flag.



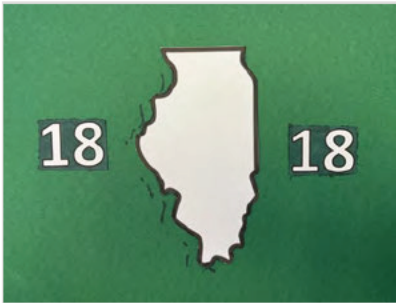
1480

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I was born and raised in Towanda, Illinois. I lived in Illinois throughout my life except for the three years I spent in military service. I am 75 years old, married, retired and enjoying life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - This design has a green background representing agriculture with the state outline in the center and the date Illinois achieved statehood.



1481

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Peace, Protection, Hope





1482

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the abbreviations of illinois in 16 stars, representing our ranking in education.



1483

Relationship to Illinois

My mother was born in Illinois and my grandparents were both born and raised in the South Side of Chicago (across the street from each other!)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star represents the fact that Illinois was the 21st state in the union, with the biggest representing Illinois, as well as paying homage to the nickname "Inland Empire," with the stars surrounding the largest star because the country surround Illinois. The green represents the prairies and agriculture, the gold represents the cities and industry, and the blue represents the waters that form the shape of Illinois.



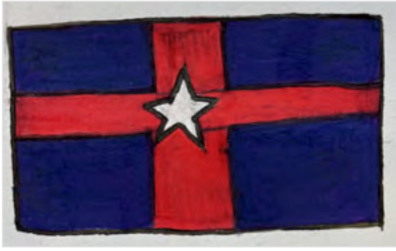
1484

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cardinal represents the state bird. The corn in its mouth represents how Illinois is a leading producer of corn. The flower by its wing represents our state flower and the ribbon is a tribute to the original flag and has the original dates on it, along with 2024 which is when the contest for a new flag started.



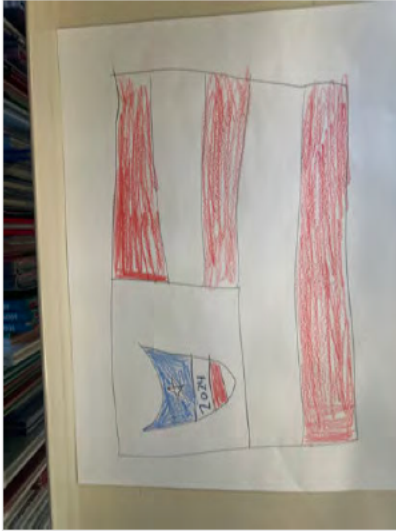
1485

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My Flag represents my love for Illinois



1486

Relationship to Illinois

I was raised here and I did a research project on Illinois and learned a lot about are history. I also would love to help our state have a new flag and make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I love red, white, and blue those colors mean bravery, justice, and peace. The shield is for are fights against everything that comes our way, we as a whole state can do anything together. The 2024 in the stripes on the shield is for when our new flag is made.



1487

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I am blessed to live here. Whenever I travel out of state, I enjoy the feeling I get when I return to the trees and fields and wide open skies of my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue field is Illinois' reliability as an agricultural and industrial producer. The five stars in the blue field are Illinois' resources: mineral, agricultural, industrial, educational and people. The red field is the blood shed for the United States by the sons and daughters of Illinois. The white field is the blank page, the foundation of new beginnings and potentials. The White Tail stag is Illinois' state animal, an apt symbol of the strength, dignity and abundance of Illinois.



1488

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived here my whole life. I move around a lot but never out of town. It is like my home my place Illinois drags me in and it's my hometown.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I put the bald eagle because it represents our town. It's our animal and the flag was used because every day before starting class we say the pledge.



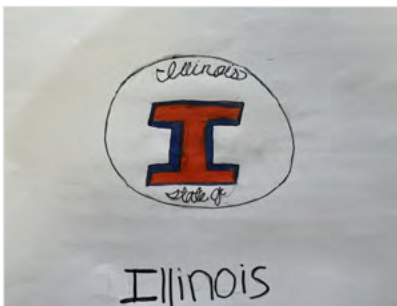
1489

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in La Harpe, Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - In this flag design I wanted to incorporate the state flower and add some more bright colors



1490

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in Illinois for 8 months and for me living in Illinois has been the best because they have really good schools and really nice people. I lived in Illinois when I was younger, but I had to move. I had really good memories here, it is my hometown.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



1491

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I am a 5th generation farmer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I did my flag the way I did because I love twinkies and I love America.



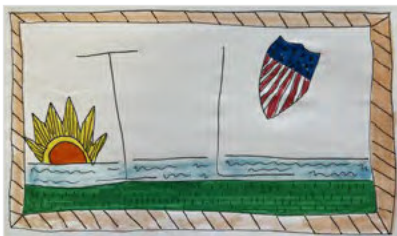
1492

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in Illinois for [REDACTED] years (my whole life). I love my state and it would be really cool to tell my future family I designed the state flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - On my flag I drew the state flower with the drawing of Illinois.



1493

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The flag I made put green grass with a sun coming over the river. I put "IL" so everyone knows it's the Illinois state flag. Around the flag I put a "gold" rope.



1494

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in IL my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I used the seal, badge and an eagle for the Illinois flag.

1495

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I am blessed to live here. Whenever I travel out of state, I enjoy the feeling I get when I return to the trees and fields and wide open skies of my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The emerald field is Illinois' agriculture and natural resources. The lapis blue field is urban Illinois, with its manufacturing, commerce and financial resources. The emerald and lapis fields have five gold stars, symbolizing the same treasures for each: mineral, agricultural, industrial, educational and financial. The compass rose in the center is for the people-Illinois' greatest treasure. It unites agricultural Illinois and urban Illinois in prosperity for all.



1496

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born in Carthage, Illinois and have lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Illinois reminds me of corn fields, farming and tradition. I drew a cardinal on my flag because it is the state bird and a white oak because it is the state tree. I drew a cornfield because it reminds me of Illinois.



1497



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born in Carthage and raised in La Harpe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I chose to do something simple with my design to show off all the details. I chose an eagle to showcase our freedom. By the way the dots are supposed to be stars, but I couldn't make them recognizable.

1498



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I live in Illinois and have most of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - For my flag design, I decided to keep it simple. I included a drawing of the outline of Illinois. I also incorporated the Illinois state flower, the lavender.

1499



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I live in Illinois and have lived here my whole life. I live in a little town called Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I added a sunset to my flag because there are always pretty sunsets here.



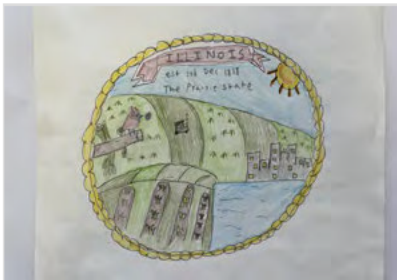
1500

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I've always loved the peace and quiet, the birds chirping, and the limitless fields of corn and beans we'll enjoy for supper.



1501

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I moved to Illinois when I was in 3rd grade. I've lived here since I was very little and my favorite part of Illinois is Chicago and Peoria.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I used many different symbols of the state such as a cardinal, violet, white oak tree branch and I also portrayed the landscape, which includes prairies and farmland. I incorporated different parts of the original flag too. The sun and water, which is supposed to be Lake Michigan, were all taken from the original.



1502

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born and raised in Illinois so it is my home state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - It's Illinois in graffiti to make there be more art in the state flag.



1503

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I am proud to be submitting a state flag design as a citizen born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I tried to adapt all of the key elements from the previous flag, such as the sunny prairies and leaves, while still giving it my own patriotic spin on it.



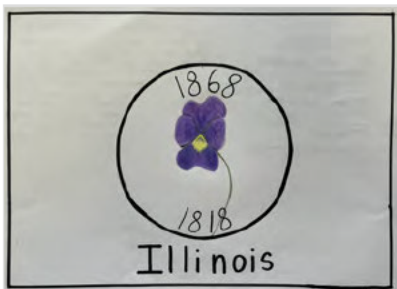
1504

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born in Illinois, but moved to another state when I was young, eventually moving back in high school. Illinois seems more like home than any place.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I chose this design by implementing the seal and the original flag design.



1505

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I just recently moved to Illinois to live with my parents.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I went with a very simple idea for the flag. The state flower is the violet and the violet symbolizes modesty and humility. As a new person, Illinois is a very kind and modest state. I also put the year that Illinois became the state and the year the seal was redesigned.

1506



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag represents all of the different state symbols. I thought the outline of Illinois could give the flag some other things other than a circle. The cardinal is our state bird and the violet is our state flower. I added more color so the flag will pop a little bit more.



Office of the Secretary of State

ilsos.gov

Illinois Flag Commission Submissions



1507

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in Illinois for my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I put down all the state symbols.



1508

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in Illinois my whole life. Carthage Illinois has been my hometown.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - On my flag I put an eagle and the state. I also did a small flag and the state name.



1509

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have been in Illinois for four years and my great grandparents were in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - This new flag shows the major teams in Illinois. It shows the state bird, flower and slogan. It also has the Illinois shield.



1510

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I put the pumpkin because Illinois grows the most pumpkins in the USA. The yellow lines are there to show farming and growth.



1511

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I am born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Illinois reminds me of the farms, wide open spaces, and rural communities. That is what I love about Illinois because there is a lot of country so I can hunt. I used this design to remind people what represents Illinois and the history behind it. That is what makes it unique.



1512

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I chose the eagle because I tend to see them a lot here. I chose the combine and corn because you see them everywhere here in Illinois.



1513

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The cardinal is the state bird and corn is popular to grown in Illinois.



1514

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I was born and raised here. I live here with both my parents and two sisters. They were also born and raised here in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I like Illinois because it has both cities and country sides. My flag consists of the seal of Illinois inside of the Illinois shape.

1515

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. My relationship to Illinois is very new. I am currently doing my exchange year here and the state is now my second home. I associate new beginnings and opportunities with the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag shows the outline of the state of Illinois in which I portrayed things that I associate with Illinois: Corn fields, hunting, water and most importantly the eagle that carries the banner. I also included the dates of establishment. Those associations are obviously only from my experience and I do not mean to imply that there is nothing else that makes Illinois the state we know and love.



1516

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I like the eagle so I kept it on the flag. I didn't use many things for the flag because I think less is more.



1517

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born in Iowa and we moved here when I was 12. We have lived here for almost 13 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag is Abe Lincoln looking at the biggest pumpkin in Carthage Illinois.





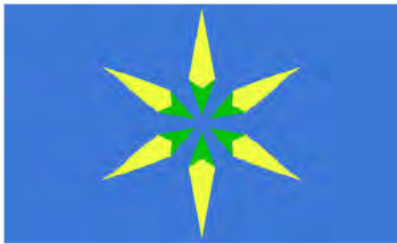
1518

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



1519

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Evanston, IL and lived there for roughly two years. Grew up in Highland Park, IL till I was eighteen and now go to the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign as a freshman.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag, Prairie Sky, is meant to symbolize the geographical and cultural features of Illinois. The background is sky blue with a six sided star in the middle to represent the wide open skies of the Illinois prairies. The six sided star is a nod to the Chicago flag which also has six sided stars and each of the diamonds is a meant to be a corn stalk to represent rural Illinois. The star shows the history of Illinois but the separate diamonds gives it a modern shine as we are still evolving.



1520

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - State flag with an "I" for Illinois. Eagle wings and red and white colors for the state colors.



1521

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in Illinois most of my life. I lived in Carthage, Illinois until I was four years old. Then I lived in Burnside, Illinois until I was 14. Then I moved back to Carthage and now I currently live in Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



1522

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag uses some of the state symbols, motto, nickname, including the state flower and the banner that can be found on most of the old flags.



1523

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I've lived in Illinois my whole life and love it here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Making a new flag would be amazing. I used the cardinal and blue stem.



1524

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I've lived in Illinois my whole life and love it here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Making a new flag would be amazing.



1525

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I picked the state flower because it is very pretty. I think we need to find a cool flag to represent our state.



1526

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I've lived in Illinois for 9 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag represents the land, the Mississippi River and patriotism.



1527

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born and raised in Illinois. The thing I like about Illinois is that the community is so tight knit.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag has the state bird and flower represented in it.



1528

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I chose the bird because it is the state bird and the flower too.



1529

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I live in a small town surrounded by nothing but cornfields.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



1530

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason for my design was to focus on the aspect of everyone in Illinois. Not only include our farmers, but also Chicago too. Everyone plays a part in the state and that is why Illinois is so great.



1531

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage.

I've lived in Dallas City, Illinois for [REDACTED] years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I wanted to do something more chill and not so much drawing with pictures.

1532

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. My family and I have lived here for almost 2 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My Illinois flag has an eagle holding a United States flag shield and it's surrounded by 21 stars because Illinois is the 21st state. My flag has the current state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union." Behind the eagle, there is a prairie because Illinois is known as "the Prairie State."



1533

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. Born and raised in Illinois on a farm.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Inspiration taken from the old flag but switch the eagle to our state bird and added pumpkins because Illinois is the top producer.



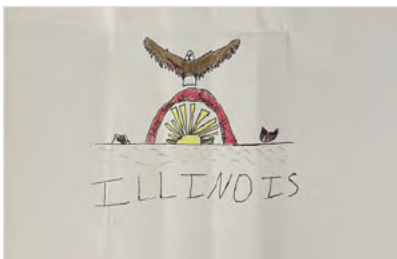
1534

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born and raised in Illinois and I'm happy that I get to live in a great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I put an eagle, the shield, the rising sun, the rock with dates on it to show my love for this great state.





1535

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born here and have lived in Illinois all of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag has our state bird (the cardinal), our state snack (popcorn), some cornfields, and the Chicago Cubs logo on it.

1536

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I've grown up in Illinois all of my life. It will always be my home and have a special place in my heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew an eagle in my flag because eagles are fierce and strong, just like Illinoisans. I included the years 1818 and 1868 to remember and showcase very important years.



1537

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born in Burlington in [REDACTED].

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I added details of the old Illinois flag but added on a new refurbished, more detailed, look.

1538



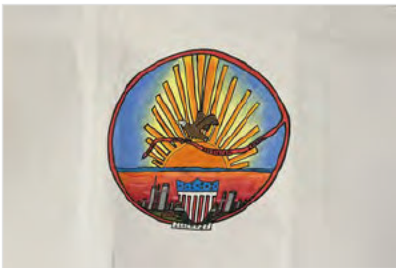
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I was born in Illinois. I grew up in many rural towns.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag is the shield with an eagle breaking through it. The stripes and stars make up the cities/town buildings. The corn is for the farms/cornfields. And the little rock type thing is from the previous flag.

1539



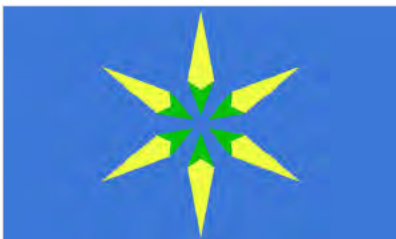
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illinois West High School in Carthage. I am an Illinois resident, born and raised in Illinois, and rarely ever leave the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design uses many designs from older flags. I have stuck with the eagle, "SSNU" lanyard, sun, stones of years, and freedom shield. I included the beautiful sunsets of this Midwest state, and the waters of Lake Michigan. I made the "SSNU" lanyard wrap around the entire flag design (Sovereign, State, Nation, Union) and I had the eagle hold the "SSNU" flag in its talons. I hope you enjoy my design.

1540



Relationship to Illinois

Born in Evanston, IL and lived there for roughly two years. Grew up in Highland Park, IL till I was eighteen and now go to the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign as a freshman.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag, Prairie Sky, is meant to symbolize the geographical and cultural features of Illinois. The background is sky blue with a six sided star in the middle to represent the wide open skies of the Illinois prairies. The six sided star is a nod to the Chicago flag which also has six sided stars and each of the diamonds is a meant to be a corn stalk to represent rural Illinois. The star shows the history of Illinois but the separate diamonds gives it a modern shine as we are still evolving.

1541

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, lived, and worked in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

We do not need a new flag. The current flag represents freedom. The majestic eagle encompasses the the values and character of the American people. Our state flag is a source of pride, history, and identity. The historic significance of our flag is profound. The more we change the symbols of our past, the more we lose our identity as Illinoisans and Americans. Are all of those symbols good? No. But the ones that are good and represent the best of Il should be kept. Keep our flag!



1542

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in the state all my life and went to UIUC, LAS 2016 BA Economics

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue portions represent Lake Michigan and Illinois' rivers, the yellow portion represents Illinois' agriculture, and the green portion represents Illinois' prairies and forests.



1543

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong Illinois citizen, current 5th Grade elementary school student, and vexillophile.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists of three colors: white for peace, green for the state's agricultural ties, and purple for violets, the Illinois state flower. The large star in the middle represents the State of Illinois, and the 20 stars surrounding it shows the viewer that Illinois is the 21st state to join the United States.



1544



Relationship to Illinois

Our relationship with Illinois is where we live.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is a contrast of colors from Illinois state flag because of the orange and blue but also a mix of the four stars flag because of its light blue. There is also a slight picture of Chicago representing one of the biggest cities in the state.

1545



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I am from Barrington, IL and now am a senior at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag uses colors all which come from the Illinois state seal, which is on the original flag. It shows a vague outline of Illinois on the right. The green strip represents the land of Illinois and the blue represents the water from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River.

1546



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I am from Barrington IL, and now am a senior at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag pays homage to the original seal of Illinois. The original seal contains a sun rising over water. I made an updated re-creation of this element of the seal, showing a rising sun over water.

1547

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is shaped by my experiences in the heartland and Chicago. Born in Champaign and raised in Bloomington, I grew up immersed in small-town life, participating in 4-H and FFA. These experiences deepened my appreciation for Illinois's land and community. Exploring the state, I've been captivated by its natural wonders and history. Moving to Chicago in my 20s as a visual artist has been endlessly inspirational. Illinois shapes my identity and I am proud to call it home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is home to progress and the crossroads of America. My flag aims to represent the true spirit of our state. The plant depiction in the center symbolizes our fertile crops and grain farms. Its blue color, used in the centennial and Sesquicentennial flags, represents Illinois history and a prosperous future. The hills represent Illinois from North to South and East to West*Illinois as a united state. White symbolizes freedom and purity, while green represents our prairies and resources.

1548

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is shaped by my experiences in the heartland and Chicago. Born in Champaign and raised in Bloomington, I grew up immersed in small-town life, participating in 4-H and FFA. These experiences deepened my appreciation for Illinois's land and community. Exploring the state, I've been captivated by its natural wonders and history. Moving to Chicago in my 20s as a visual artist has been endlessly inspirational. Illinois shapes my identity and I am proud to call it home.



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1549

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My relationship with Illinois is shaped by my experiences in the heartland and Chicago. Born in Champaign and raised in Bloomington, I grew up immersed in small-town life, participating in 4-H and FFA. These experiences deepened my appreciation for Illinois's land and community. Exploring the state, I've been captivated by its natural wonders and history. Moving to Chicago in my 20s as a visual artist has been endlessly inspirational. Illinois shapes my identity and I am proud to call it home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Illinois flag design features a silhouette representing Abraham Lincoln, who developed his political career in Illinois and played a pivotal role in shaping America. The outline is simplified yet distinctly Lincoln and enclosed in an oval shape, reminiscent of 1800s cameo art. The flag uses two colors: white representing purity, innocence, and freedom, and blue for progress and perseverance, the colors of our Centennial and Sesquicentennial flags, honoring our history.

1550

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Evanston, IL, and lived there for two years. Grew up in Highland Park, IL, for sixteen years and currently attend the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag, Winter Sky, is an inverse of my original: Prairie Sky (ID 1540). The darker tones are meant to represent the cold winters with a navy blue sky and a six-sided star meant to represent both the city of Chicago as well as the snow. The separated diamonds are meant to reflect modernity as well as vectors to the six states we neighbor and act as a hub to. Optionally, this flag could be hung during the winter/spring while Prairie Sky is hung in the fall/summer as a seasonal reflection.



1551

Relationship to Illinois



I've lived in Illinois my entire life, with Southern Illinois as my home. I wish more people recognized the richness of this state beyond just Chicago. Maybe winning this contest will finally shift some attention to the beauty and spirit of the south.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eagle's head in this design is a powerful symbol of Illinois' strength and freedom. Its piercing gaze represents the vision and resilience of a state built on more than just one city. Illinois stands united*its spirit soaring like the eagle, proud and enduring.

1552

Relationship to Illinois



i have lived in the state of Illinois for my entire life. I was born in Naperville and currently live in Aurora. My goal is to travel across the state seeing all the sights possible. I am a student at MVHS in Aurora.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue field in the back represents the many bodies of water in the state (Ex: Illinois River, Lake Michigan). The orange band running down the middle represents the courage of the people of Illinois. the star in the middle represents the Potawatomi, Fox, Ho-Chunk, and Illiniwek native American tribes, the first settlers of the region. the fleur de lys in the corner represents the french settlers, who were the first europeans to settle in the land.



1553

Relationship to Illinois

My father's family has been in Illinois since before it was a state, and my mother's family is several waves of immigrants through Chicago. I was born in Southern Illinois where my family came together around Southern Illinois University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Shaped to evoke outline of Illinois.Chicago Star.Blue belt of perseverance evoking the Illinois River.Golden yellow fields for the Prairie State's agriculture.A pennon dyed red with the sacrifices Illinoisans have made for the Union.A black silhouette to evoke the image of the USS Cairo, coal workers, and labor unions.The pennon on ceremonial flags may also have a grommet for displaying awarded decorations (such as for IL NG units); approved embroidery on the Cairo Anvil; and tassels.



1554

Relationship to Illinois

My father's family has been in Illinois since before it was a state, and my mother's family is several waves of immigrants through Chicago. I was born in Southern Illinois where my family came together around Southern Illinois University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Shaped to evoke outline of Illinois.Chicago Star.Blue belt of perseverance evoking the Illinois River.Golden yellow fields for the Prairie State's agriculture.A pennon dyed red with the sacrifices Illinoisans have made for the Union.A black silhouette to evoke the image of the USS Cairo, coal workers, and labor unions.The pennon on ceremonial flags may also have a grommet for displaying awarded decorations (such as for IL NG units); approved embroidery on the Cairo Anvil; and tassels.

1555

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag is being submitted on behalf of my son [REDACTED] (age 12). I was born in Rockford, IL and now live in Sycamore, IL. I hope that you like all three of my designs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - "Regions." This design represents the regions of Illinois with three stars, two small stars for Central and Southern Illinois. The middle, large Chicago star, is for Northern Illinois where most of the population of Illinois lives. The green is for the prairie grass and agriculture, the white is for snow and the blue is for the boarding waters of Lake Michigan, the Ohio River and Mississippi River.



1556

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag is being submitted on behalf of my son [REDACTED] (age 12). I was born in Rockford, IL and now live in Sycamore, IL. I hope that you like all three of my designs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - "White Tail." This design represents the heart of the prairie state. The white tail deer being the focal point with the year Illinois became a state. Bordered by soybeans and blue stripes.



1557

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag is being submitted on behalf of my son [REDACTED] (age 12). I was born in Rockford, IL and now live in Sycamore, IL. I hope that you like all three of my designs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - "Connections." This design represents all of Illinois with the red stars from the Chicago flag, the green standing for the fields and forests of Illinois and the blue representing the blue sky and the rivers and lakes of Illinois.



1558

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is where my family is from and it is where I grew up. Because of this, it is a place I've become deeply connected to. No matter where I go in the world, Illinois remains a part of me and it is always the place I call home. The state's nature and vibrant communities I grew up experiencing are a source of inspiration in my art and design career, shaping my creativity and sense of identity. When ever asked, I say I am from Illinois with pride and gratitude, for it made me who I am today.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A flag to unify the history and landscape of Illinois as 3 equal parts. The bottom has blue and white stripes: blue for the 3 rivers and 1 Great Lake that border much of the state, and 3 white stripes for the Northern, Central, and Southern regions of Illinois. The green field represents Illinois as the Prairie State. The top white sky has a rising gold 12-point starburst shape, seen in the iconic Capitol dome's center. The star inside, from the USA flag, symbolizes Illinois as the 21st state.

1559

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is where my family is from and it is where I grew up. Because of this, it is a place I've become deeply connected to. No matter where I go in the world, Illinois remains a part of me and it is always the place I call home. The state's nature and vibrant communities I grew up experiencing are a source of inspiration in my art and design career, shaping my creativity and sense of identity. When ever asked, I say I am from Illinois with pride and gratitude, for it made me who I am today.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

On a white field, 2 matching green silhouettes of a prairie grass spikelet, like the Big Bluestem, symbolize Illinois as the Prairie State. Each spikelet has 18 florets, representing the year 1818, when Illinois became a state. Center framed, the state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union," is depicted. A gold 12-point starburst shape, seen in the iconic Capitol dome's center, represents State Sovereignty. Inside a blue star symbolizes Illinois as the 21st state, signifying National Union.



1560

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here. I live here since 5 year old

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The only meaning behind my flag is that I had to do it for an assignment.



1561

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here . i live here now

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My love for Illinois



1562

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to illinois is good I like all the universities and opportunities illinois like with jobs and in school as well like doing scholarships and going on college trips to plan us for after highschool. illinois also

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that its like the original flag but with the stars the meaning behind it is that the U.S.A is positive and has peace.



1563

Relationship to Illinois

I live and have grown up in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made a corn field are state and red white and blue for the background.

1564

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to the great state of Illinois in 1988. Since then, I have lived here, married, and raised three children to adulthood. I may not have been born here, but I chose to live here. It's the best state in the union.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The BLUE (HEX# 006197) fields represent the waterways (i.e., Lake Michigan, Mississippi/Ohio River, Illinois/Chicago River, etc.)The GREEN (HEX# 669f35) fields represent the agricultural land of our state.The WHITE (HEX# ffffff) fields represent peace in our community.The center medallion represents the state of Illinois and that we protect the people of Illinois.The GOLD (HEX# e2a114) stars represent the three parts of Illinois (i.e., Northern Illinois, Southern Illinois, and Central Il



1565

Relationship to Illinois

I was borned, raised and lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 4 stars represents the 4 Constitutions of Illinois. The "IL" represents abbreviated state name. The colors represent the state of Illinois current flag.



1566

Relationship to Illinois

Born and currently reside in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chicago is the biggest city in Illinois so I put the Willis Tower. The cardinal is the state bird. The blue violet is the state flower. The years are when the previous design was admitted and when I made the new design.



1567

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I've been able to experience Starved Rock and Matthessin state parks in my hometown. Growing up surrounded in nature, I've learned to appreciate what's around me and how to respect those who are around me as well. Illinois has given me many opportunities to be the best person I can.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design incorporates many aspects of Illinois in one work. From the cornfields to the capitol building in Springfield, my flag design represents Illinois as a whole, giving the sense of a complete state that prioritizes education and the safety of its residents.



1568

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Paducah Kentucky and have heard of Illinois all my life. We travel to Illinois countless of times to visit family, go to local shops, and just passing through on our way to somewhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design incorporates symbols of prominent figures in Illinois's history. The landscape highlights the Mississippi River and violets to enhance the recognition of natural resources. The Wild Tail Deer focuses on freedom, overall health, and balance. The buildings constitute the major economic powerhouse of Chicago. Lastly, Lincoln is displayed in the water to show remembrance of his legacy. The colors I used in my design include colors that I believe represent the natural beauty of Illinois.



1569

Relationship to Illinois

The designer [REDACTED] - Eight years old) was born in Chicago and lives in Evanston.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Three orange lines represent major rivers in the state (The Chicago, the Wabash, and the Des Plaines) Blue line represents the Mississippi River. Lighter blue outline represents Lake Michigan. Fleur de Lis symbolizes the French exploring history. Yellow circle in the middle represents Springfield. Four stars represent: The Great Chicago Fire, Lincoln's Election; the Columbian Exposition; and reversing the Chicago River. Eagle/Shield stand for IL being a union state.



1570

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. Lived here all my life :)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois was the 21st state admitted to the Union. This is reflected in the flag's focal point: three 7-pointed stars. Running through the combined stars is a single orange band. This has a dual meaning: Illinois being the nation's top pumpkin producer... and as a general symbolization of our state's agricultural sector. Over the stars and orange band, a white stripe. This calls back to the white background of the current flag. Two blue stripes representing our state's rivers and lakes.



1571

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I also own a business in Carrier Mills, IL

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I created this flag by giving credit to President Lincoln for what he did as president. One of the greatest things to happen in America was the Emancipation Act. I don't believe any other state flag is black. I believe this flag is representing the Unity of our country.



1572

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is where i live and is the state in which i have attended preschool all the way to highschool.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Seeing as the Bald Eagle is a symbol of freedom I have included it as well as a star on its chest which represents how Illinois is a state. I used elements from the current flag in order to keep the major important areas intact. upon the stones are specific numbers, which, represent the date or when Illinois was founded with the rising sun giving the sense that there is a new day to come and open skies to soar in; freedom and serenity.



1573

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois holds much significance for me: It is a state where key moments in my life have unfolded. The energy, culture and landmarks (like the Art Institute in Chicago) have been a backdrop to family visits, school trips, and personal milestones. To me, Illinois represents a destination where I always find myself changed upon returning. Illinois is meaningful and very important to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

As I began sketching ideas for this flag, I noticed a lot of dual themes: The two-part state motto; the two L's in the state name; the alliterative "Land of Lincoln." I played with these and decided on a double-theme that I put into my design: There are two lines running on top; two stars on either side; and a top row and a bottom row of text. I kept it simple with colors and a scarce layout, and I hope this is a lasting, visually-pleasing design to look at.



1574

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago, Illinois all my life. This is where my husband and I raised our three boys. It would be an honor for my design to be considered to represent the state of Illinois and my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design for the flag showcases the Illinois shape with the red, white, and blue of our United States. The state shape was placed in the center to indicate its importance and symbolic meaning for the world to discover that Illinois is a treasure. The 21 stars represent Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union in 1818. The shadow on the left represent the Mississippi River. The green and brown colors of Illinois were chosen for all the agriculture farmlands throughout the state.

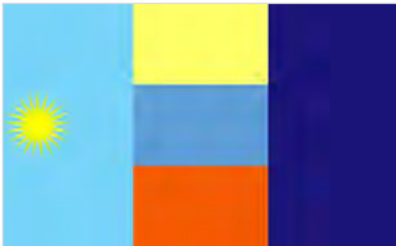
1575

Relationship to Illinois

Residents of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Light blue symbolizes the sky, medium blue symbolizes the minor bodies of water like rivers, Dark blue symbolizes the major bodies of water like Lake Michigan, The star represents the sun, The 21 points on the star represent the fact that Illinois was the 21st state of the US, the yellow represents the corn and wheat that are grown here, the orange represents the pumpkins that we are one of the biggest exporters of, if you turn the flag on its side you can see a blue I and the landscape of color



1576

Relationship to Illinois

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1577

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago, Illinois all my life. This is where my husband and I raised our three boys. It would be an honor for my design to be considered to represent the state of Illinois and my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

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1578

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the sky and bodies of water that Illinois has or borders, the yellow represents the corn and wheat that we grow, the orange represents the pumpkins that we are a major exporter of, the yellow star symbolizes the sun shining down on the corn, wheat, and pumpkin fields, the 21 points of the star represents Illinois being the 21st state.



1579

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the sky and the bodies of water of Illinois, the purple represents the color of our state flower the violet, the orange represents the pumpkins that we are a major exporter of, The 21 points on the star represents us being the 21st state of the US, the yellow star represents the sun that is almost always shining down on us.



1580

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Oak Park, raised in Schaumburg. Graduate of Schaumburg High School and the American Academy of Art in Chicago. Currently reside in Arlington Heights.

Daughter is a student at Millikin University. Lifelong Blackhawks, Bears and Cubs fan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Illinois flag design is inspired by the nickname, The Prairie State, given to the state by its first settlers. Utilizing the colors of the American flag it depicts the state's vast prairie lands, and the agricultural heart of Illinois, under a deep blue sky. In the northeast corner, of this traditional rectangular flag, is the 6-pointed Chicago star. Representing the third largest city in the country, the most populous city in the state and a cosmopolitan destination known world wide.



1581

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Oak Park, raised in Schaumburg. Graduate of Schaumburg High School and the American Academy of Art in Chicago. Currently reside in Arlington Heights. Daughter is a student at Millikin University. Lifelong Blackhawks, Bears and Cubs fan.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Illinois flag design continues the tradition of a white field used in the current flag. Emboldened in the center is a proud northern cardinal, safe at home while prepared to take flight. Perched on the branch of a white oak tree, that has grown upward, and continues to bloom. Showing that in Illinois... we're constantly growing, always moving forward and a great place to call home.

1582

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Oak Park, raised in Schaumburg. Graduate of Schaumburg High School and the American Academy of Art in Chicago. Currently reside in Arlington Heights. Daughter is a student at Millikin University. Lifelong Blackhawks, Bears and Cubs fan.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Displaying Illinois' pride of joining the USA on 12/3/1818. Illinois' place as the 21st state admitted to the Union is depicted by 21 stars. The stars' pattern replicates the U.S. flag canton flown from July 4, 1819-1820. Illinois' unique arrowhead shape on the fly end, a majority of which are created by its natural boundaries, pay homage to its indigenous people. All grounded by a red stripe that hints at the ribbon of the current flag and the state motto; State Sovereignty, National Union.

1583

Relationship to Illinois

All of my vivid memories are of living in this state. I've always been content with my role as an Illinoisan, but I started getting really into urban design in my early teenage years. Suddenly, I realized that I lived in the suburbs of the best city in the nation. That started a chain reaction of me appreciating everything else Illinois had to offer - the beautiful midwestern nature, the harsh yet pretty winters, the tranquility of the suburbs and everything that this state had to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red star represents Chicago: the economic center of Illinois. When the flag stands without wind, the star is the most prominent feature visible. The blue stripe next to it represents the vast suburbs of Chicago, also known as Chicagoland, and the red stripe next to it represents the rural areas: symbolizing the cultural and social similarities between suburban and rural areas. The blue star in the corner represents the unity that every Illinois citizen has, no matter where they live.



1584

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Macneal Hospital in Berwyn, IL, raised as a child in Cicero, IL, moved to Berwyn, IL when I met the love of my life, then moved to Downers Grove, IL when my children were ready to go to school, and finally settled my family in my home in Woodridge, IL. Illinois is my home sweet home. Illinois is everything I've ever known from education, growing up, to falling in love, and raising a family. I love my country, and I love my state, Illinois!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to maintain an image of our current flag within the new design to appreciate its history. I incorporated the symbols that represent IL within the silhouette of IL: state flower blue violet, state bird cardinal, and state butterfly monarch. I included more color on our flag to capture the diversity of IL. An image of the state capital building with Abraham Lincoln to me was a must. Of course, the state name is proudly on top. Finally, corn fields are a major part of our economy.



1585



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois, a student going to Metea Valley Highschool.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to incorporate both the popularity of the cities and landscapes that encompass all of Illinois as well as a few important items that are either grown in Illinois or known for what it's popular for-- The Bean, Lake Michigan, the native Bigblue Stem, and vibrant grass to represent the rich soil that Illinois prospers throughout the state. The ribbon is a reminder of the flag still up and what Illinois is still pretty well known for as well: State Sovereignty Union.

1586



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I grew up on a small farm in southern Illinois, went to the University of Illinois where I received my art education degree and taught in Illinois till I retired. I met my husband at U.of I. and moved with him to a farm in central Illinois where we continue to farm with our son.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the outline of the state of Illinois with a big blue stem prairie grass in the center, representing the prairies of Illinois. The colors of the flag represent the blue sky on top, orange sunsets in the middle and golden prairies on the bottom.

1587



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I am 90 years old and have lived in Southern IL, Central IL, and Northern IL. I am presently in Central, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The drawing I am presenting depicts Chicago, Springfield (Capital), Lincoln's log cabin and a stalk of corn (farmers) of Illinois. They are left and right view.

1588

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois became my new home after choosing to retire here. With limited funds saved up, but unlimited desires to explore, I sought a place that was affordable, accessible, and refreshingly new to me. The midwest met those criteria, and this is where I landed. For me, Illinois is a magnet for people with undetermined potential. I find that it delivers an optimal balance of resources to challenges. Abraham Lincoln is an inspiration - he turned an adopted home into a springboard for life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This simple design is instantly recognizable to outsiders and solidly familiar to Illinoisans. The colors come from the Chicago flag. The geographic shape establishes its place of origin. The text is freeform yet works as a solid backbone. And its creativity comes from the visual twist which pays homage to our most famous citizen. This flag celebrates people, place, and identity - all intertwined.



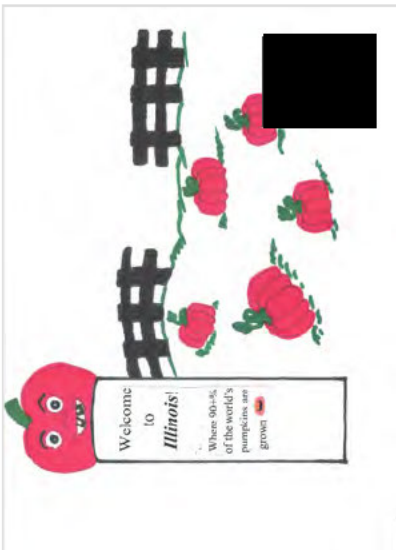
1589

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life-all 62 and a half years. I love it here. My husband has lived his whole life here and so have my two sons. This is a great place to raise a family. We all attended the excellent schools here in Illinois from UIC, to UIUC, to IIT to uChicago. Yes, each year we enjoy partaking in celebrating with pumpkins from decorating them to carving them to ultimately inadvertently feeding the squirrels with pumpkins, it's a festive time of year!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois farmers grow more pumpkins than anywhere else in all of the world! They grow 90-95% of pumpkins used for processing where most takes place in Morton, Illinois at the Nestle Libby's plant and in Princeville at the Seneca Foods plant. My son Aaron recently graduated from the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana and told me how Illinois is noted for its' pumpkins. So, I wanted to create this flag for our fine state depicting a pumpkin patch. Thank you.



1590

Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Illinois for most of my life and teach middle school science and social studies in Illinois, this design was made by one of my students who lives in Paw Paw Illinois and is an eighth grader.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The natural parts of Illinois along with its deep history is reflected in this design. The state bird, flower and crop are shown. The twenty one stars to symbolize the 21st state admitted to the union. The Sun is taking elements of the original flag to incorporate into the new one.



1591

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, my parents wanted a good life for me, to stay away from drugs and gangs, I was enrolled in the OFF THE STREET CLUB, the oldest kids club on the west side of Chicago til I was 16, I left when tragedy struck. Then I went to Marshall H.S join the basketball team winning the city championship 2001 and from there went to Lincoln college Illinois to finish playing basketball and my art education graduating with honors and now living the life my parents wanted for me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is to honor Roy L Dunbar & our soldiers. We as citizens also fight for some kind of peace, justice, Liberty, & a better life for the future children, & our families. In 1999 Roy was killed, trying to help a kid my age but unfortunately that kid didn't want help, & Roy paid for it with his life, while being of service to (OTSC) which don't get much recognition. Now the kid is being released after 25yrs & this drawing is to honor Roy & others for the sacrifice they make for the kids in Illinois.



1592

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I've been able to experience Starved Rock and Matthessin state parks in my hometown. Growing up surrounded in nature, I've learned to appreciate what's around me and how to respect those who are around me as well. Illinois has given me many opportunities to be the best person I can.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design incorporates many aspects of Illinois in one work. From the cornfields to the capitol building in Springfield, my flag design represents Illinois as a whole, giving the sense of a complete state that prioritizes education and the safety of its residents.



1593

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 7th grade student at Leman Middle School

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used some of the Illinois state symbols like the red cardinal and monarch butterflies.



1594

Relationship to Illinois

The only state I have ever lived in is Illinois, but that fact of geography is only the surface of my relationship to it. I was educated in Illinois' public schools, first in my K-12 years, then at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I have dedicated my professional life to Illinois' service by becoming a teacher in this state as well as choosing to make it my home. Wherever I travel, I am always proud to say I come from this place where hard work and common decency reign supreme.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue = Mississippi River & Lake Michigan
Yellow = agriculture
Gear = industry, 21 teeth = 21st state
Arrows = past, present & future, cardinal feather, nod to Indigenous people
Red & blue match US flag
Stars Illinois Confederation - 5 main tribes, where name comes from
Statehood - constitution, admission & 3 capitals
World's Fair - hosting countries from Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa & Australia
Culture - media, nature, sport, art & education
Presidents - Lincoln, Grant, Reagan, Obama & to come

1595

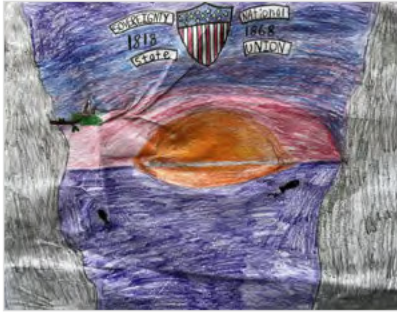
Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago. Please replace previous like design. This one has improved corrections.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I call this design "Illinois Free"; Illinois under an infinite blue sky with of opportunity and limitless possibilities.





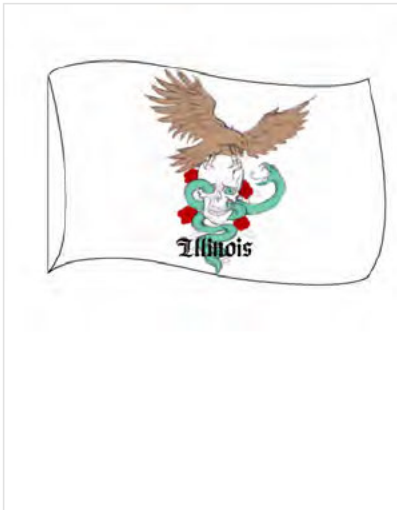
1596

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illini West High School. I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life so far.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I used a sunset and some mountains to make the eagle on the flag look good.



1597

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Midlothian, Illinois. I am happy here Illinois is my home

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is not all people live the life they want but others can. People of color get blamed for doing nothing.



1598

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illini West High School. I was born in Hancock, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I added the shape of Illinois and many things that represent Illinois' history.

1599



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illini West High School. I was born and raised in Carthage, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The eagle represents the patriotic spirit of our country. The flag/shield represents freedom, prosperity, justice, liberty, and the combined power of people coming together. The sun means hope and the light that shines on all of us. The grass represents the land that we walk on, build on, farm on and live on.

1600



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illini West High School. My family and I have lived here for almost two years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My Illinois flag has an eagle holding olives, leaves and arrows that represents times of peace and war. Behind, there is a prairie because Illinois is known as the Prairie State. The eagle holds the state motto in its beak, "State Sovereignty, National Union." It has the years 1818-1868 because in 1818 Illinois became a state and in 1868 the Illinois seal was created. The eagle holds a shield that contains 13 stars that represent the 13 American colonies.



1602

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in the south side and in Humboldt Park neighborhoods of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design harkens to the red, white and blue of our national flag with a white star in a midnight blue canton on the upper left corner, representing the 21st state of the Union. In the white field is a red outline shape of Illinois.



1603

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illini West High School. I was born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The cardinal represents our state bird.



1604

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illini West High School. I have lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag is the shape of Illinois and behind is an eagle. Illinois has the American flag on it and the state motto on a ribbon wrapped about it. And of course, the state of Illinois and the dates after the Senate Bill was signed into law.



1605

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illini West High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - This flag shows what things are in Illinois and what Illinois represents.



1606

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] at Illini West High School. I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I made a state flag.

1607

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my chosen home. I lived in southern Illinois for around six years and northern Illinois for around six years. I'm currently attending law school at Notre Dame, but I plan to return and practice in Illinois. As a military brat, my childhood was uprooted every few years until my family finally settled near Scott AFB, near Cahokia. I attended high school in west Clinton County before a state scholarship enabled me to attend the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

(1 of 3: NATIONAL UNION) <https://imgur.com/mqrOfPQ...> Illinois is the most representative state in the union (WaPo). Many states take pride in divergence, IL should take pride in being a microcosm, the heart of the U.S. at-large. Named for Tyndale's twist with the state seal, using Union Blue for the Civil War-era that IL and its people (e.g. Lincoln, Yates, Grant, etc.) took great part in, 8 stars (21-13) stand firm through tides of change. Positioned to remind of the U.S. Flag.



1608

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of Cruz at Illini West High School. I live in Illinois since 2010 and have always loved this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I really want this to win.



1609

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of Parker at Illini West High School. I live in the rural town of Carthage, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The shield to show the protection and safety of our state and its people. The eagle is to show the bravery and honor of our state.





1610

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This flag design was submitted on behalf of Lainey at Illini West High School. I have lived in Illinois since 2008.

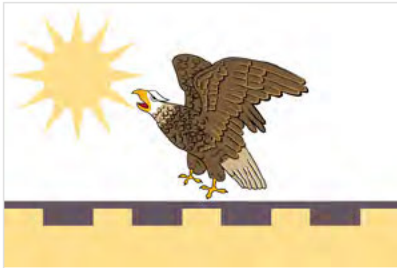
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - In my flag I included an eagle and a pumpkin.

1611

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my chosen home. I lived in southern Illinois for around six years and northern Illinois for around six years. I'm currently attending law school at Notre Dame, but I plan to return and practice in Illinois. As a military brat, my childhood was uprooted every few years until my family finally settled near Scott AFB, near Cahokia. I attended high school in west Clinton County before a state scholarship enabled me to attend the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

(2 of 3: FREIGHT AND FURROW) <https://imgur.com/c2XA9RT...> I have strong memories riding train lines between St. Louis and Chicago, with golden fields in the south and industry as you go north. The bottom yellow alternates tall (corn) and short (soybean), crop rotation, with gray rail lines filling the gap. North, South; Agriculture, Industry: one whole foundation. IL's two "foundings," by indigenous Cahokia and French Jesuits, both heavily use the sun. The Eagle looks to a brighter Midwest.

1612

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my chosen home. I lived in southern Illinois for around six years and northern Illinois for around six years. I'm currently attending law school at Notre Dame, but I plan to return and practice in Illinois. As a military brat, my childhood was uprooted every few years until my family finally settled near Scott AFB, near Cahokia. I attended high school in west Clinton County before a state scholarship enabled me to attend the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

(3 of 3: UNDER ONE SUN) <https://imgur.com/1FGYQp2...> Illinois has two origins: indigenous Cahokia, city of the sun, and French Jesuits, who use the sun as their symbol. The Sun has 12 rays, the 12 Illini tribes. It is positioned with quadrants like a Compass star in the "midwest" of the flag: IL was the gateway westward, now "guides" the way. Four stars, four periods: Cahokia's 1018 to New France's 1718 to the Northwest Territory's 1788 to Illinois' 1818. Illinoisans are always under one sun.

1613

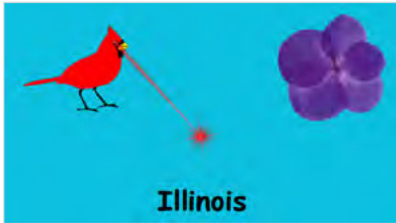
Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident and unapologetically proud to be an Illinoisan. I was born and raised in Chicago and live in Edwardsville. I have degrees in geography from both Eastern IL and SIU Edwardsville.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Our rivers and waterways shaped our economy, culture and borders. 4 stripes represent the Illinois, Mississippi, Ohio and Chicago Rivers (and their tributaries). The field of blue represents Lake Michigan. The 21 spoked wheel represents our admittance into the union and the significance of transportation to the state's history (Rt. 66, railroad industry, steam boats, and more). Harvest orange represent the importance of agriculture.



1614

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Cardinal is the state bird and violet is the state flower.



1615

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The prairie state

1616

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the suburbs of Chicago, and although I now live in Texas, Illinois remains my favorite place to visit. I also still have family there, and I love to frequent such cherished Illinois institutions, such as Oberweis and Portillo's, that are available in Texas. I remain proud of my Illinois roots, and I hope to contribute to the state that has given me so much.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green field invokes the lush prairies and sprawling farms that coat Illinois. The white triangle symbolizes the state's snowy winters and references the primarily white Chicago flag. The sun pays homage to Illinois' current flag and has twenty-one rays to match how Illinois is the twenty-first state. In the original flag, the sun is rising, half hidden underneath the horizon. In this flag, the sun has fully risen to symbolize how Illinois has become an integral part of the Union.



1617

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the suburbs of Chicago, and although I now live in Texas, Illinois remains my favorite place to visit. I also still have family there, and I love to frequent such cherished Illinois institutions, such as Oberweis and Portillo's, that are available in Texas. I remain proud of my Illinois roots, and I hope to contribute to the state that has given me so much.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is a modern update of the current one. The green stripe symbolizes the state's farms and fields, while the blue stripe represents the rivers and lakes that shape the state. The white strip pays homage to the state's snowy winters and the white field of Chicago's flag. The sun, which has twenty-one rays as Illinois is the twenty-first state, comes from the original flag. However, instead of starting to rise, the sun has fully risen as Illinois is now a shining part of the Union.



1618

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Waukegan, IL and now currently a proud home owner in Grayslake, IL I can happily say I have always lived in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Golden fields of grain on a beautiful sunny day circled by a ring of gold. Focus mainly on the radiant state bird the cardinal. The two blue vertical lines representing the many rivers flowing through Illinois.



1619

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the suburbs of Chicago, and although I now live in Texas, Illinois remains my favorite place to visit. I also still have family there, and I love to frequent such cherished Illinois institutions, such as Oberweis and Portillo's, that are available in Texas. I remain proud of my Illinois roots, and I hope to contribute to the state that has given me so much.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The gray stripes represent the towering skyscrapers that define Illinois' cities, like Chicago, while the green stripes represent the state's farming foundation. The stripes weave together to symbolize interstate cooperation. The white field pays homage to the state's snowy winters. The sun, which has twenty-one rays as Illinois is the twenty-first state, comes from the former flag. However, instead of just starting to rise, the sun has fully risen as Illinois is now a shiny part of the Union.



1620

Relationship to Illinois

I am 12 years old and have lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew a skyscraper on the moon with a cardinal on it. The moon represents unlimited opportunities because it's in space and space is huge. The skyscraper represents the city's in Illinois and the cardinal represents the country parts of Illinois.



1621

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 2021 our great state is my home, I moved here to find safety and security. I grew up in Tennessee where Intersex people like myself as well as the rest of the LGBT+ community are under fire from Anti-LGBT legislation. Illinois not only is a safe haven from prosecution, but as a young disabled woman I receive much better healthcare here than my former state. My design is about unity, hope, the future and growth all things Illinois has given me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose to place symbols of our great state upon an outline silhouette to tie many aspect of our state into the design. The White Oak leaves to represent the Past, Present and Future of all Illinoisians. A few of our State Animals, Pumpkins as we are The nations pumpkin power house. Corn to represent our farmers. And Familiar symbols like Lincoln, The Chicago Cloud Gate "Bean" and a Route 66 Sign showing our connection to the historic roadway. Notice the animals facing right, toward the future.



1622

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Violet flower represents the state flower. The black represents the vast native american history within the area. The blue represents the hard work and diligence of all of the farmers all around the state. And the white represents peace and tranquility as the first state to abolish slavery.



1623

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Jacob Hatley, I was born and raised in the suburbs of Illinois. I enlisted in the Marine Corps as an infantryman, spending two tours overseas in Afghanistan. Upon returning to the states I pursued an education in architecture before transitioning into a full-time parent for my two daughters whom I raise myself. I currently enjoy being a member of the PTO board at my daughter's school and freelance designing in my free time.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is inspired by Illinois' centennial flag. A large blue band hosting twenty one stars represents national union, with the other states paving the way for Illinois' centrality as a staging ground to conquer the western frontier. Illinois' star sits at the nexus of the diagonal light blue bands, which represent the I&M Canal and railroad lines that have made Illinois so logistically impactful today as well as in the past. Iconography pivotal to the state aids in national identity.

1624

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Jacob Hatley, I was born and raised in the suburbs of Illinois. I enlisted in the Marine Corps as an infantryman, spending two tours overseas in Afghanistan. Upon returning to the states I pursued an education in architecture before transitioning into a full-time parent for my two daughters whom I raise myself. I currently enjoy being a member of the PTO board at my daughter's school and freelance designing in my free time.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the existing flag of Illinois. The seal/motto remains with a sun shining over the state's bright future. A band of 21 stars represents national union on a red field for bravery, it is flanked by two blue bands that symbolize the state's logistical importance: Lake Michigan & the Mississippi River. A motif of corn & soybeans arranged akin to wheat flanks the state's name. Lastly, the two gold bars at the top represent the two world fairs and unique national railway status of Illinois.

1625

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Jacob Hatley, I was born and raised in the suburbs of Illinois. I enlisted in the Marine Corps as an infantryman, spending two tours overseas in Afghanistan. Upon returning to the states I pursued an education in architecture before transitioning into a full-time parent for my two daughters whom I raise myself. I currently enjoy being a member of the PTO board at my daughter's school and freelance designing in my free time.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag promotes the state's agricultural importance throughout. The state's name is flanked by a motif of soybean and corn, topped by two gold bands to represent the state's rail importance as well as the two world's fairs it has hosted. Below a sun shines over the state's bright future across Lake Michigan, the I&M canal, and fertile fields (which dually represent our state's unique approach on diversity -especially as a historic 'Free State').

1626

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, Illinois and have grown up in the small area of Illinois sometimes known as Illiana. It is very flat, and all you see is corn half the time, but it is also a very beautiful place to live. You can see the stars and the sun set and the air is cool and fresh. You can feel at home, even in the middle of a seemingly endless, golden plain.



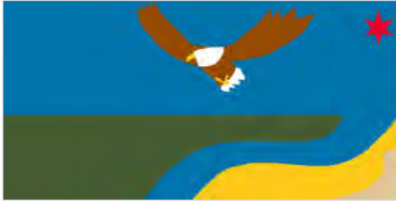
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design contains a wheat symbol and 16 stars. There are 16 stars present on the flag because Illinois is known for the 16th President Abraham Lincoln. He lived in Illinois for 31 years and he represented Illinois in the U.S. House of Representatives. The wheat symbol represents the agriculture and fertility of Illinois. Illinois is a major producer of corn, soy beans, wheat, and other crops. Illinois is cherished for its rich soil and flat, rolling plains.

1627

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois. I have been living here since May 2014. We moved here from California due to a job offer. My son really loves Geography and flags. He is passionate about the history of places and their flags. He made this flag for Illinois to reflect his love for flags.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's colors and symbolism have a few meanings: 1. The ratio is 4:2 because of the 1942 Nuclear Age. 2. The Bald Eagle is for the U.S. 3. The red 6 Pointed Star is for Chicago. 4. Brown for agriculture. 5. Golden Yellow for the prairies. 6. Cobalt Blue for the Illinois river and the beautiful Illinoisan Sky. 7. Light Beige for the soybeans. 8. Olive Green for the Forests. 9. White for the clean energy.

1628

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois in which I have lived here my entire life. I graduated from Stevenson High School, Lake Forest College, and Loyola University Chicago and devoted my life to sharing my passion for graphic design with my middle school students. I have also been an Illinois educator for over 20 years in which I am happily married to an elementary art teacher and currently raising two children in this beautiful state I call home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Reimagine a new Illinois state flag that pays homage to the past while embracing the future. My redesign features an eagle and shield, stylized with flowing lines to represent strength and freedom. My incorporation of the sky blue color and the iconic star as the eagle's eye symbolizes a bright future. The classic colors create a strong visual impact while representing our American heritage. This modernized flag can wave anew with this powerful yet vibrant vision of pride for all of Illinois.

1629

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is that there is opportunity for any dream career upon every young Illinoisan, like me who aims for graphic design. I enjoy Illinois as one of the best diverse states, it's democratic, the foods are great, streets easy to navigate, and classic architecture within the city which are immensely fascinating, they even look better at night. I hope the Government can improve our insurances, taxes, and student loans in more cheaper fairer prices.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of my flag is to contribute the origins of the names that the founders gave to the city and state with the original concept of the bald eagle carrying the banner with the same motto and the two rocks presenting the time period of Illinois becoming a state. Two with color in case the first one is being distracted by the Chicago background. All three, Abraham Lincoln's face for name "Land of Lincoln," Illiniwek Native on right for name Illinois, and Shikaakwa leeks for name Chicago.

1630

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is that there is opportunity for any dream career upon every young Illinoisan, like me who aims for graphic design. I enjoy Illinois as one of the best diverse states, it's democratic, the foods are great, streets easy to navigate, and classic architecture within the city which are immensely fascinating, they even look better at night. I hope the Government can improve our insurances, taxes, and student loans in more cheaper fairer prices.



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1631

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

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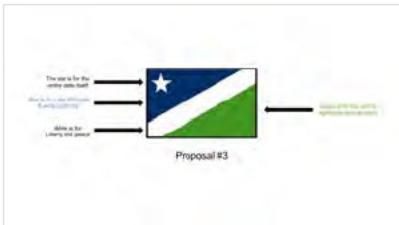
1632

Relationship to Illinois

We live in Quincy, IL [REDACTED], my son is a 7th grader at Blessed Sacrament Catholic School who loves art and the great history of the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue is for Lake Michigan & wide open sky. White is for Liberty and peace. Green is for the state's agriculture and farmland. The star is for the entire state itself. Xavier Torres, 7th Grade



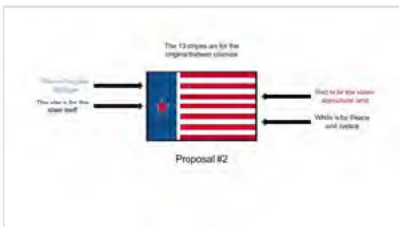
1633

Relationship to Illinois

We live in Quincy, IL [REDACTED] my son is a 7th grader at Blessed Sacrament Catholic School who loves art and the great history of the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue is for Lake Michigan. Red is for the states agricultural land. White is for Peace and Justice. The star is for the state itself. Xavier Torres, 7th Grade



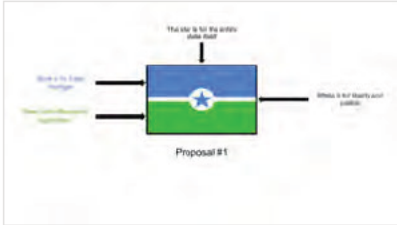
1634

Relationship to Illinois

We live in Quincy, IL [REDACTED] my son is a 7th grader at Blessed Sacrament Catholic School who loves art and the great history of the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue is for Lake Michigan. Green is for the state's agriculture. White is for liberty and justice. The star is for the entire state itself. Xavier Torres, 7th Grade



1635

Relationship to Illinois

most of my family is from Illinois, and i visit Illinois relatively often. Although i'm from Wisconsin, I am only a few minute drive from Illinois. Alot of me and my families' history is from the 21st state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the flag is made up of red white and blue. White, which represents purity, red, which represents bravery, and blue, which represents the color of the chief. There is 21 stars total, representing the state of Illinois being the 21st state addmitted into the Union



1636

Relationship to Illinois

I have Lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue on the side represents the 2 rivers that form IL's border Orange in the middle represents agriculture specifically pumpkins The Eagle in the center represents the old IL flag The 6 sided star represents Chicago The red 5 sided star represents Springfield and Southern IL The 19 white stars and 2 red stars show that IL was the 21st state admitted to the union The colors Red White and Blue along with the Eagle show that IL is a US state



1637

Relationship to Illinois

I have Lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue represents the 2 rivers that make up IL's border, along with lake Michigan
The Orange represents agriculture, specifically pumpkins
The Orange and Blue together represents the view you see in the south of agriculture and the blue sky
The 6 sided star represents Chicago
The 20 white stars and 1 red star show that IL was the 21st state admitted to the Union



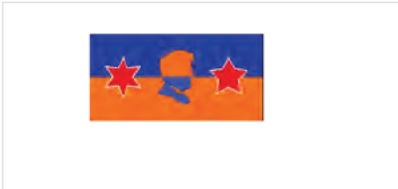
1638

Relationship to Illinois

I have Lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue represents the 2 rivers that make up IL's border, along with lake Michigan
The Orange represents agriculture, specifically pumpkins
The Orange and Blue together represents the view you see in the south of agriculture and the blue sky
The 6 sided star represents Chicago
The 5 pointed star represents Springfield and the south
The Silhouette of Lincoln represents Lincoln and democracy



1639

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here. Been here all my life. I have gone to two colleges here. I am now an elementary teacher in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I love monarchs and they are the state insect. The bottom is supposed to represent soy and corn fields.



1640



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here. Been here all my life. I have gone to two colleges here. I am now an elementary teacher in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I love monarchs and they are the state insect. The bottom is supposed to represent soy and corn fields.

1641



Relationship to Illinois

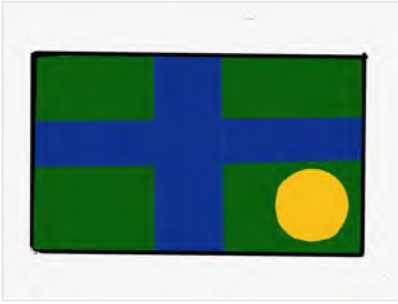
As a Palestinian Muslim American, Illinois has become a second home for me and my community. Historically, my people had their homes stripped from them as they were forced to flee their country. Illinois has given my people a home where our culture and ideas thrive. The history of the state's development reflects where second chances are made and great ideas are born. As well as its level of influence around the globe.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is a very inventive state. We were the first to invent skyscrapers, zippers, dishwashers, and brownies!!! My flag contains the blue silhouette of a Ferris wheel which was one of Illinois' inventions that influenced the world. The yellow six-pointed star in the middle of the wheel which is part of the Chicago flag symbolizes Chicago being the heart of Illinois: it can also mean a great idea. As well as the waves on the bottom symbolize Lake Michigan which we share with 3 other states.

1642

Relationship to Illinois



I have lived my entire eleven years in Illinois. I go to school in Wilmette Illinois, where I learned about flags in my integrated global studies class. I am very proud to live in Illinois. I was born in Illinois in 2013.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my integrated global studies class at highcrest middle school, we watched the TED talk about good flag design. I am familiar with the five flag design principles. The blue cross represents the four main rivers in Illinois, the yellow circle represents the sun, and the green rectangles represent the large amount of Illinois that is prairie or forest.

1643

Relationship to Illinois



I am a working artist living in Illinois. I was born and raised here, attended Illinois's public schools, and studied at the American Academy of Art in Chicago, IL. I feel the state has given me a great deal of state and civic pride which has motivated me to seek out creative projects to express is, including this proposal and several projects that I've done with the United States Mint.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My concept was heavily influenced by the state song, "Illinois" by Charles H. Chamberlin. The main color of the flag's field is green for Illinois' vast prairies and agriculture. The state tree, a white oak, sits center left on the field referencing the "great commercial tree" from the song. 20 stars encircle the tree. The 21st star is colored Union Blue in reference to IL being the land of Lincoln. The blue on the right represents our border with Lake Michigan and is a simplified IL shape.

1644

Relationship to Illinois

I do not have any relationship to Illinois but i hope that doesn't affect my flags chance.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue represents Lake Michigan, and Illinois's rivers. The White represents peace and harmony. The Green represents the prairies of Illinois, the forests, and the agriculture and farming. The 21 Stars in the flag represent how Illinois was the 21st state in the USA, they are yellow to represent the sun and the constalations visible from Illinois and how the sun helps with farming and agriculture.



1645

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life. Illinois is where I was born, where I was raised, where I went to college, and where I met the love of my life. It's where my wife and I got married, where we bought our first house, and where we're raising our beautiful children. I've always felt the Illinois state flag could use a refresher, and I'm proud to be able to provide my submission.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Central Red 6-Point Star-Represents IL as Heart of the US- Home of Chicago
White Rectangle- "I" for Illinois
Red L-Base: Agriculture, prairies, our citizens- Column: Progress, Skyscraper rising into the sky
Blue L-Top: Sky, hope- Column: Lake Michigan, Mississippi River
ILL for Illinois
Colors- Red, White, and Blue representing America- Multiple colors to represent diversity



1646

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, I have a strong attachment to the state and I want to help in the community in any way I can.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The new designed flag encapsulates the detail from the former design in a more modern fashion. It highlights all of the sections from the previous one, while still being original to itself. The importance of the banner, eagle, river, sun, rock, leaf, and shield remain steadfast in their meanings. This art is designed to retain the key elements for better identification.



1647

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, I have a strong attachment to the state and I want to help in the community in any way I can.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The new designed flag encapsulates the detail from the former design in a more modern fashion. It highlights all of the sections from the previous one, while still being original to itself. The importance of the banner, eagle, river, sun, rock, leaf, and shield remain steadfast in their meanings. This art is designed to retain the key elements for better identification.



1648

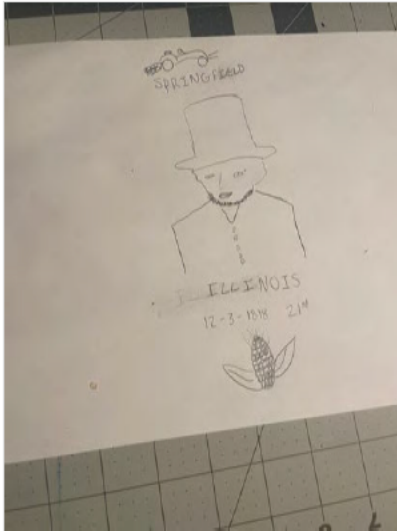
Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green stripes represent our thriving agriculture industry, the gold represents our wealth in the diversity of our people. The blue is from our American flag, representing our commitment to freedom and democracy. The blue additionally represents the waterways that were so important to the development of our state, specifically the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The curved shape of the blue stripe represents the winding path of the waterways that shape a majority of our state.





1649

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in a small town here in Illinois my entire life. My family moved here several generations ago to grow their career in farming and raise their family. Both sides of my family have been involved in agriculture from growing crops to raising livestock.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I choose Abraham Lincoln as the center because he was well known here and visited Shelbyville where I'm from. The tractor ties back to my family's role in agriculture as well as the corn at the bottom. The 21 stands for us being the 21st state in America and we became a state on 12-3-1818. Our capital is in Springfield Illinois.

1650



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident with deep roots in the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Each color and symbol on the flag is chosen to represent abstract virtues of the state, along with a graphical representation of certain regional features (the Cahokia mounds, Springfield, Lake Michigan etc). I took effort to abide by proper principles of vexillology and can offer deeper explanations of each color, band and placement if you should choose to give my design further consideration.

1651

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the Chicago area, and Illinois has been my state of residence all my life. For nearly 20 years, my job has involved mapping hazards across the state (mostly flooding). Over that time, I have visited numerous locations in all corners of Illinois and am looking forward to further exploration of my home state. I like to learn about the history and culture of the state and run an Illinois-themed trivia contest with my work group each year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white background is an homage to the current flag. The lt green, yellow, and dk green stripes represent prairie, agriculture, and forested areas. These stripes roughly form the shape of the state. The blue line represents Illinois' waterways. The 7-pointed stars represent each of Illinois's capitals. They are roughly aligned where they are geographically within the state, and are violet b/c of the state flower. The # of points on the stars add to 21, and Illinois was the 21st state.



1652

Relationship to Illinois

I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange represents the Illini, the water represents Lake Michigan, and finally the sunrise represents the beautiful sunrises we have. The rays are green because we are known for corn and beans and wheat.



1653

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I did a farm because we have a lot of farms in Illinois





1654

Relationship to Illinois

I live in illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the blue and orange are for illini and the popcorn is for our corn



1655

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It has a cross because I am a Christian and like I like sunsets .



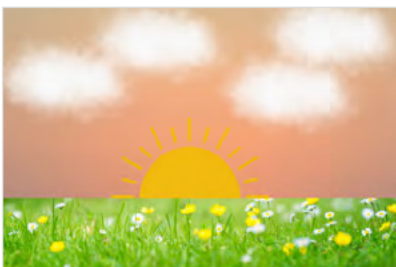
1656

Relationship to Illinois

I live in illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue orange and black strip is for the U of I, the flower is our state flower, and the cardinal is for the state bird.



1657

Relationship to Illinois

I live there

Explain the meaning behind your flag

sun set are pretty so I put a sun set



1658

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange is pumpkin the green and the sun represents a corn field.



1659

Relationship to Illinois

i live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the blue is for the mississippi river, the cross is for jesus, the yellow is a sunset and corn, the orange is for sunset.



1660

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It presents if you know something.



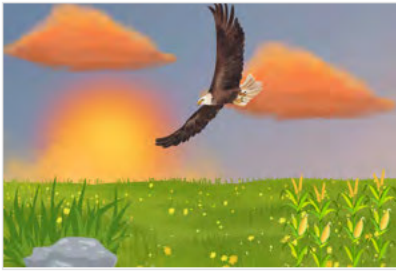
1661

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is very sunny



1662

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I represented a sunset.



1663

Relationship to Illinois

I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The water represents the mississippi river and the corn field represents the corn fields here.



1664

Relationship to Illinois

I am from Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The whole flag just represents that we are the best.



1665

Relationship to Illinois

I live her

Explain the meaning behind your flag

we are hav vilit prpurl and the sun set and lacs



1666

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This represents the sunset on the prairie, along with the many of colors of Illinois



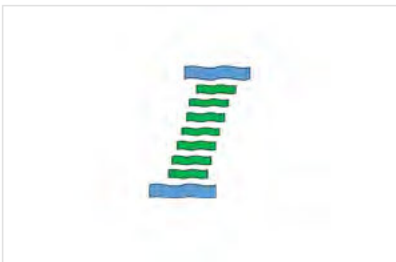
1667

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a student in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is mostly symbols because it has a river for the Mississippi River, corn stocks for all of are crops, orange and blue for are state colors, a cross for all the christians, a cardinal for our state bird, a white tailed deer for our state animal. The sun represents our sunsets.



1668

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident for most of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top blue stripe represents Lake Michigan. The green stripes represent Illinois' fertile fields, its agriculture. The bottom blue stripe represents rivers, especially the Mississippi River, which forms Illinois' western border.

1669

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud native of the great state of Illinois! Born and raised in Springfield, I've lived my entire life in central Illinois. I graduated from Illinois State University with a degree in Graphic Design before returning to my hometown to start a family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design I'm proposing is fairly simple. I utilized one element from the current state flag (the sun with its pointed rays rising above the horizon) and I placed it over a field of green to represent the prairie. The top of the flag features a field of blue to represent the expansive sky above the prairie. I chose the blue color and 6-point star as a nod to the flag of Chicago and placed the star in the upper right corner to represent the great city in the northeast corner of our state.



1670

Relationship to Illinois

George is 9 years old and lives in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In George's words - "My flag represents symbols of Illinois. "



1671

Relationship to Illinois

Growing up & living in Illinois has deeply connected me to the state's unique character. I appreciate its natural beauty * from the prairies & farmlands to the peaceful lakeshores. At the same time, I'm also drawn to Chicago's vibrant energy & industry. The city's towering skyline & bustling streets reflect Illinois' role in trade and innovation. It's a place where nature & progress coexist, making Illinois a serene yet dynamic home. This flag showcases both its prairie beauty & vibrant energy.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

-The two blue stripes represent Illinois' major waterways*Lake Michigan & the Mississippi River-The white background symbolizes purity & peace-The gold emblem, featuring Chicago's skyline & the State Capitol dome, highlights our rich architectural beauty-The 3 prairie flowers*Prairie Coreopsis, Common Blue Violet (State Flower), & Daisy Fleabane*show Illinois' natural beauty & biodiversity-The "1818" marks Illinois' admission-"The Prairie State" underscores our agrarian heritage & nickname

1672

Relationship to Illinois

Alexandra is 8 years old and lives in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In Alexandra's words - "My flag represents symbols of Illinois. I like the cardinal, it looks nice. Monarchs are pretty too! I like violets too. Bluegill is the first fish I ever caught! Milkweed is what monarch caterpillars eat. Deer are a nice animal."





1673

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange represents pumpkins, the green soybeans, the yellow corn, and the wind the windyness of our state.



1674

Relationship to Illinois

I'm currently an Illinois resident and was born and raised in the Chicago suburbs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background symbolizes clear blue skies and a positive future. The gold foreground represents the state's abundant agriculture and prairies. The white 6-pointed star represents: Government, Health, Civic Spirit, Indigenous tribes, Homage to Illinois' largest city (Chicago), Future Prosperity.



1675

Relationship to Illinois

I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Pumpkin/corn-agriculture Cardinal-state bird



1676

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the green stands for the farm land the orange stands for the pumpkins and the blue stands for the chicago river



1677

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in ILL and still live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tree is a white oak which is the state tree. The scythe and the hoe represent our crops. The grain represents the crops too. The colors represent the fall here and the summer here.



1678

Relationship to Illinois

I was leaving hear and I was born hear.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of my flag is that it is represented by Abraham Lincoln belding the log house.



1679

Relationship to Illinois

I'm from Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow is field's and the green is grass and the orange is for pumpkins.



1680

Relationship to Illinois

I live in the country and I see what only the middle east can see the big orange sun set and I lived here for 11 years and the flag has a word upside down and we are one of the most pumpkin producers in America.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue means all the famous rivers the orange and yellow means the beautiful middle east sunset the green means farm and the plains and country land the silhouette means the state bird the cardinal.



1681

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The plant symbolizes all the crops that are grown in Illinois and the river symbolizes all the rivers that run through Illinois.



1682

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and its nice

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The brownish shades mean fall the yellow half circle means summer and the stars mean fall/spring and IL means illinois.



1683

Relationship to Illinois

I represent Illinois because I live here and I love it here And I was born and raised here in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Flag represents the state bird of Illinois and it represents the colors of the American flag.



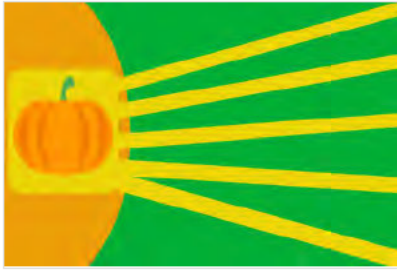
1684

Relationship to Illinois

I was born illinois. I live in illinois. I'm a student in illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the orange is for bears. the blue is for bears. the green is for all the fields in illinois. The light blue is for the mississippi river. IL is for Illinois.



1685

Relationship to Illinois

I live hear.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Pumpkin represents the pumpkin state. the yellow represents the 2nd in the corn state.



1686

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I have lived here my whole life. This is my dream to have the flag as my on I made for Illinois and I hope you pick me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the mean behind my flag is the orange and blue is the state colors. It also has In God we trust. also has a cardinal for our state flag. last but definitely lest it is there colors like you said



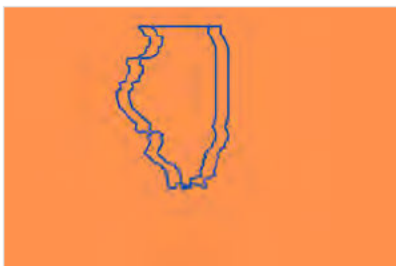
1687

Relationship to Illinois

I was born her and I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my fag is I put aberham Lincoln in the middle and a penny .And I put corn to represent our state because corn is one our main thing we grow and I put a pumpkin that is one of the thing we grow to. And I put a eagle for our country.



1688

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the green is grass the blue is water. the yellow is corn.



1689

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here. And I still live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the eagle represents our country.



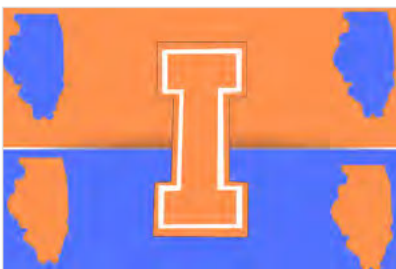
1690

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

because it looked pretty



1691

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with illinois is that I live here and I was born here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It has a I in the middle of it which represents the I in illinois. It also has our colors orange and blue on my flag.



1692

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I cows to yous punpkins and flowers



1693

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I have grown up here and I am a student here in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I choose the flag design that I did because I put the Illinois coolers.



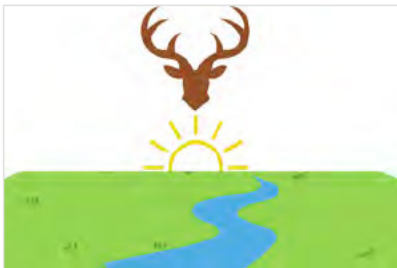
1694

Relationship to Illinois

I live here and has lived here for 9 year

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put the sibl on there because I like fishing



1695

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and live there now.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I did what Illinois was known for like sunsets and are animal is a white tailed deer.



1696

Relationship to Illinois

I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is esey to do



1697

Relationship to Illinois

I was bored here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Red is for the stat ,blue is for the water and white is the people.

1698

Relationship to Illinois

citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag depicts a skyline of Illinois viewed from the west, showing to sun rising from the east. on the right, a Chicago skyline, on the right, a Shawnee National Forest treeline, in the middle a field of corn. The design has a wheat tassel depicting the crops we grow, and 20 star because Illinois is the 21st state to be annexed to the US. the color pattern matches that of ripe corn ready to harvest. Also, the treeline uses an outline of the state of Illinois on a map. Overall, very symbolic.



1699

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here in Bloomington

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represent lake Michigan.



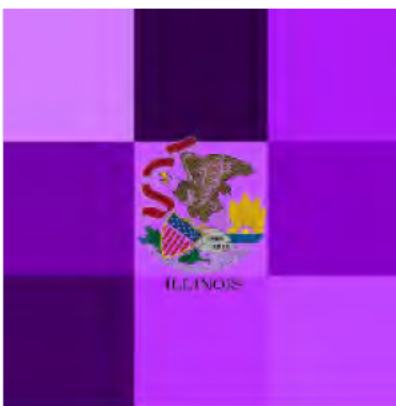
1700

Relationship to Illinois

i live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the purple would make it one of the only flags with purple and being a square



1701



Relationship to Illinois

The designer was born in Chicago and has lived in Chicago all of his life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents Illinois. The blue represents Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The four smaller six-pointed stars represent the four Illinois presidents (Lincoln, Grant, Reagan, and Obama) while the big star represents coming together. The six-point star design is also representative of Chicago. The waves represent both the prairie with the gold color and the wind.

1702



Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and most of my family live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I pict blue and orange because blue for the sky and orange for the pumpkin.

1703



Relationship to Illinois

citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag uses the design of 3 stripes across the center to depict corn. two green stripes on the sides to depict the husk, and one yellow stripe in the center to depict the cob of the corn. Flag uses shades of the colors that represent harvest, and their are 20 stars to represent Illinois being the 21st state annexed to the US.

1704

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a lifelong resident of Illinois and have grown to love the state. I have been all over the state from our urban north and our rural south. I always believed that Illinois was a special state with a unique identity and that the state deserved a unique flag that exemplifies what the people of Illinois represent.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue field represents our expansive river system and our connection to the Great Lakes. The 3 yellow stripes represent our farms which are an integral part of our state and economic identity. The 7 stars represent the 7 states that joined the Union after the 13 colonies and the large star in the center represents Illinois as the 8th. Additionally, the 8 stars represent each city in Illinois with a population above 100,000; the center represents Springfield.

1705

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my chosen home. I lived in southern Illinois for around six years and northern Illinois for around six years. I'm currently attending law school at Notre Dame, but I plan to return and practice in Illinois. As a military brat, my childhood was uprooted every few years until my family finally settled near Scott AFB, near Cahokia. I attended high school in west Clinton County before a state scholarship enabled me to attend the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

(1 of 3: NATIONAL UNION) <https://imgur.com/m0B3EdC...> Illinois is the most representative state in the union (WaPo). Many states take pride in divergence, IL should take pride in being a microcosm, the heart of the U.S. at-large. Named for Tyndale's twist with the state seal, using Old Glory Blue for the Civil War-era that IL and its people (e.g. Lincoln, Yates, Grant, etc.) took great part in, 8 stars (21-13) stand united through tides of change. Positioned to remind of the U.S. Flag.

1706

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my chosen home. I lived in southern Illinois for around six years and northern Illinois for around six years. I'm currently attending law school at Notre Dame, but I plan to return and practice in Illinois. As a military brat, my childhood was uprooted every few years until my family finally settled near Scott AFB, near Cahokia. I attended high school in west Clinton County before a state scholarship enabled me to attend the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

(3 of 3: UNDER ONE SUN) <https://imgur.com/6q7YM7a...> Illinois has two origins: indigenous Cahokia, city of the sun, and French Jesuits, who use the sun as their symbol. The Sun has 12 rays, the 12 Illini tribes. It is positioned with quadrants like a Compass star in the "midwest" of the flag: IL was the gateway westward, now "guides" the way. Four stars, four periods: Cahokia's 1018 to New France's 1718 to the Northwest Territory's 1788 to Illinois' 1818. Illinoisans are always under one sun.

1707

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag contains 21 stars to represent the Illinois being the 21st state with 17 of the stars being 6 pointed having each point of those stars to add up to 102 representing the the 102 counties in Illinois. The colors of the the flag having blue for the state's waterways and the orange for the state's agriculture.



1708

Relationship to Illinois

I am a multigenerational Illinoisan, born and raised in Salem, Illinois. I graduated from Salem Community High School and Eureka College. I have family from the Chicagoland area down to Southern Illinois and parts between. My daughter will graduate from University of Illinois Urbana Champaign next May. My wife and I currently live in Glen Carbon, Illinois. I am the designer of the Madison County (IL) Seal.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Distilling the colors and themes of our current state flag, this Crossroads Plaid design features two bold red stripes echoing the depiction of our state motto banner. The three horizontal stripes represent the state's diversity. The colors of the stripes represent: yellow, our generous bounty; blue our great waterways; and green our vast prairies. The blue field and star represent our state as it appears on the American flag. The composite "plaid" depicts the crossroads of America.



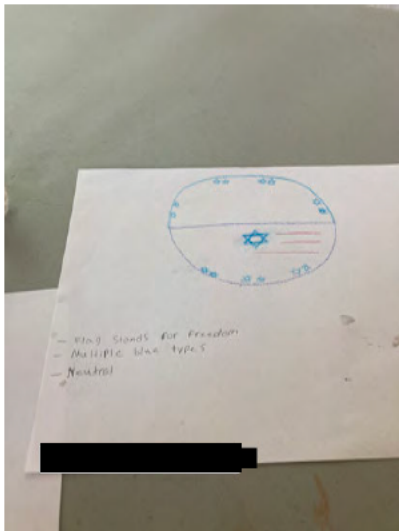
1709

Relationship to Illinois

Neutral relationship with Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag stands for freedom, Multiple types of blue used Neutral relation with Illinois



1710

Relationship to Illinois

I am a multigenerational Illinoisan, born and raised in Salem, Illinois. I graduated from Salem Community High School and Eureka College. I have family from the Chicagoland area down to Southern Illinois and parts between. My daughter will graduate from University of Illinois Urbana Champaign next May. My wife and I currently live in Glen Carbon, Illinois. I am the designer of the Madison County (IL) Seal.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In a bold tribute to our original state flag, the iconic eagle and state motto banner have been dynamically reimagined. The placement of a white star, shining at the eagle's heart, symbolizes our state's proud place in America's heartland. The Morning Star honors the legacy of our Native American predecessors, while the Fleur de Lis nods to the French pioneers who shaped our state's early history.



1711

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue part of the flag stands for the body of water Illinois has such as the lakes and rivers. The green stands for the agriculture and the orange is associated with the characteristics of creativity, determination and success that us citizens of Illinois have. I was born in Illinois.



1712

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life, some in the Chicagoland suburbs surrounded by cornfields and some in the hustle and bustle of the Windy City. I admire the sense of community and rich history inside and out of the city, and I will always call Oswego, IL home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

With Illinois at the center of America's rail network, I used a railroad to connect the open prairie, featuring the White-Tailed Deer (State Animal) and Monarch Butterfly (State Insect), to Chicago. Iconic buildings like the Willis Tower and John Hancock Center represent the skyline, with Lake Michigan behind. Inspired by the current state flag, the sky includes a sun with vibrant rays and the state motto. This design blends prairies and cities, highlighting the diverse character of Illinois.



1713

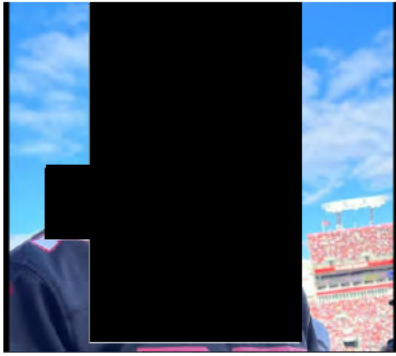
Relationship to Illinois

The name I use for illustrating is TJC Hrubes and am a lifelong resident of Illinois. Grew up in Brookfield a couple of blocks from Brookfield zoo. I hold a dear affection for our state, its history, and vast array of resources, natural and cultural. This submission is a full color rendition of my line drawing design, submitted earlier to insure I had a submission prior to the deadline.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design has the elements of the shield from the Illinois flag combined with the silhouette of the state, this has the 7 red bars, the blue field has the 4 stars (in white) from the Chicago flag, the year Illinois attained statehood, and a central red star to represent Springfield, with the state plane of prairie grass on either side. The state bird is featured on the right, with the state animal on the left. Below is the state motto in a banner and above is "Illinois".





1714

Relationship to Illinois

I live there

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I fish

1715

Relationship to Illinois

I am currently living in Chicago with my family, this is where we arrived in the USA from abroad. My daughter is born in Illinois. Like Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable, founder of Chicago, I was born in French territories. I am working in food industry, one of the speciality of the corn belt and Illinois and mainly working throughout the midwest and Illinois is the heart of the midwest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Left blue stripe represents Mississippi river bordering IL West, right one is for Lake Michigan / Wabash/Ohio river bordering IL East. Diagonal line represents Illinois river joining Lake MI to Mississippi, sharing its name with IL state. Along this line, 3 stars for 3 remarkable locations, 3 parts of history: Cahokia mounds; Springfield, capital; Chicago, biggest city. 2 yellow triangles for Midwest prairie grass & corn. Total 18 star branches for 1818 foundation date and 21 elements for 21st amendment.



1716

Relationship to Illinois

I am submitting for [REDACTED] Margot arrived in Illinois as a 2 year-old toddler. She was raised in Illinois and is now living in Chicago. She recognizes Chicago flag, Illinois flag and US flag as hers from very young age.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chicago flag is very impactful in and outside of the city. Most people recognize it and is very marketable on goodies, equipments... I suggest to inspire Illinois state flag from Chicago flag with: -3 blue lines for Mississippi river, Illinois river/Lake Michigan and Wabash river -2 yellow stripes: one for the corn belt of the Midwest, one for the prairie grass as Illinois is the Prairie state -4 stars to symbolize 4 periods of history: before europeans, French trappers, Territory & now US State

1717

Relationship to Illinois

I am submitting for HELOISE. HELOISE is born and raised in Illinois. Chicago is her home town. She is still living there.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

3 stripes for 3 periods, 3 geographies, 3 stars: - Blue for Mississippi and in this region the Cahokia mounds with the Native american star (4 branches) - Yellow for Prairie and agriculture (corn belt) for the land of Illinois with the 5 branches Star of Springfield, state capital - Blue for Michigan Lake and Chicagoland with the 6 branches Star of Chicago. All together 15 star branches with 3 stripes means 18 elements for 1818 foundation date of the State of Illinois.

1718

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident, grandmother to [REDACTED], a 2nd grade, 7 year old Illinois resident.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

[REDACTED] flag has elements of the flag of the United States of America: the colors red, white and blue, and stars. The Cardinal is the Illinois State Bird. The 1818 banner is for the year Illinois became the 21st state of the United States.

1719

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This design was submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] 8th grader in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - This 90 cm X 150 cm flag recognizes many parts of Illinois history. The first detail that most viewers first notice is Abraham Lincoln's log cabin in the middle where he was raised as a child and lived most of his life. On it are important dates marking Illinois history, carved out on some pieces of wood like 1673 when Illinois was first discovered. Some smaller details to notice include the corn fields, the Chicago skyline, a cardinal, Abe's homemade split rail fence and his axe.



1720

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago in 1963 and have lived in Illinois for most of my life. I also attended the University of Illinois from 1981 to 1985.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

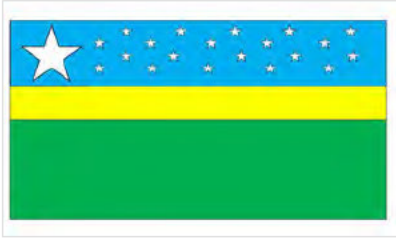
My first flag entry is called "Prairie State." The bottom half is a golden yellow, which represents the agricultural gold harvested from our rich Illinois farmland. The top half is light blue, which represents the blue skies of possibility to be found in our state. The thin white line through the middle is the horizon, emphasizing the flatness of our state's geography. And the rising sun in the center represents the idea that every day is a new day, full of opportunity.



1721

Relationship to Illinois

I moved from Michigan to Illinois in 1971 to join the faculty of a medical school, where I worked for 22 years until I retired. In 1994, I founded with Joyce O'Keefe of Openlands an alliance that worked with Rep. Geo. Sangmeister advocating for the conversion of the Joliet Arsenal into The Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, the Midewin Nat. Tallgrass Prairie, two industrial sites, and for Will County, a landfill. I then served on the Citizens' Restoration Advisory Board for the arsenal cleanup.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag reflects the history, geology and economy of Illinois, the 21st state admitted to the union, thus the 21 stars, the large one for Illinois. Most of the state is covered with glacier-deposited deep soil, which eventually became prairie. The flag sits on a green band of prairie vegetation topped by a yellow band of prairie flowers, the green now being corn, the major crop, with its yellow corn kernels. The wide open landscape sits under a star-studded blue sky.

1722

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago in 1963 and have lived in Illinois for most of my life. I also attended the University of Illinois from 1981 to 1985.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My second flag entry is called "River Border." The red, white, and blue colors echo the colors of our national flag. The gently curving, vertical white line represents the Mississippi River, which forms the entire western border of our state. In fact, our state has more miles of the Mississippi River forming one of our borders than any other state. The white star represents our capital city of Springfield.



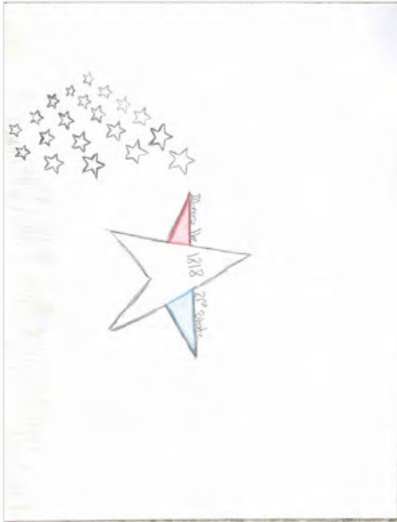
1723

Relationship to Illinois

This flag includes the date of Illinois creation becoming a state. The flag stands for Illinois being created into a state and has their prairie land since there is a lot of that in Illinois. The features that are showcased on the flag are that the stars each represent a state and go only up to 21 because Illinois was the 21st state of the United States in 1818. This explains the story of the US and the other states creation but adds an emphasis on Illinois being the large star.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Currently I am in Chicago, Illinois and have lived in Chicago, Illinois all my life. I am a CPS student working on the new design for the Illinois flag for my Contemporary US History. I am an Illinois resident and I have lived in Illinois my entire life for 17 years. I have a deep connection to Illinois since I have been here for a decent amount of time and know about the creation of the state. I understood the meaning of the previous Illinois flag and know the history of the Illinois flag.



1724

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago in 1963 and have lived in Illinois for most of my life. I also attended the University of Illinois from 1981 to 1985.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My third flag entry is called "Nation's Crossroads." The dark blue background represents our steely midwestern work ethic. The compass-like shape in the center, created by interweaving yellow and white lines, speaks to Illinois' role as the transportation center of the country. From our vast system of railroads to our interstate highways (including the origin of Route 66) to O'hare airport, we are the literal crossroads of America. The yellow and white lines also echo highway dividing lines.



1725



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here. Been here all my life. I have gone to two colleges here. I am now an elementary teacher in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I love monarchs and they are the state insect. The bottom is supposed to represent soy and corn fields.

1726



Relationship to Illinois

My dad grew up in Illinois, my grandparents still live there, and I visit them there often. I am a fan of Chicago's professional sports teams, and my favorite college team is the university of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Just like the Illinois Centennial Flag this flag has 21 stars representing how Illinois became the 21st state of the United States of America. The 6-pointed star represents Chicago, Illinois' as well as the Midwest's most populated city. The four light blue stripes represent the bodies of water that act as borders for the state of Illinois, Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, the Ohio River and the Wabash River.

1727



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Aurora, Illinois and still reside in the village of Sugar Grove, just west of Aurora.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Although the bald eagle is a prominent national symbol, I elected to use the state bird of Illinois, the cardinal, in my design. It's placed on a background of one of the state's top commodities, corn. The "star" border represents the 102 counties in the state. The 21 stars on either side of the design represent Illinois as the 21st state to be entered into the union. The design also includes the state slogan "Land of Lincoln" and the state motto "State Sovereignty, National Union".

1728

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a state resident all my life. I was born and raised in Chicago, but have admired & enjoyed the history and beauty of the entire state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included 21 stars and the year 1818 to symbolize that it's part of a greater nation, USA. I included 4 blue stripes that stand for the bodies of water that are found throughout the state. The larger one representing Lake Michigan, the rest rivers and lakes. This is also a nod to the Chicago flag (4 stars). The flowers are place holders for the state flower and maybe the seal, something that perhaps ties it to the old flag. I don't draw flowers so someone that designs for the state can add.



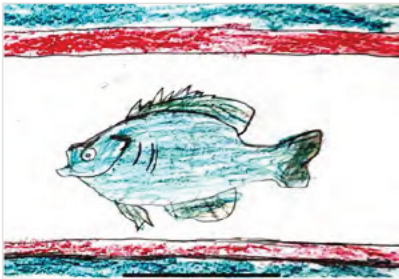
1729

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home state

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the Bluegill because is a valuable animal to Illinois as it can be found in many different bodies of water. The color blue represents the many bodies of water that can be found in Illinois, there are more than 91,000 freshwater lakes and ponds. Water is also a great resource for the economy and the environment. The red represents my love for Illinois.



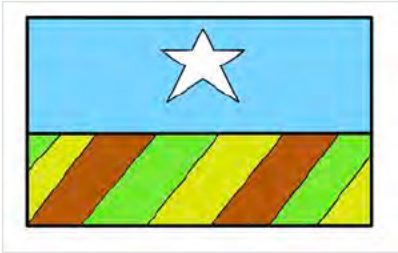
1730

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Broadview, Illinois, and lived just outside Chicago until I was five, when my parents moved our family to Lisle. I grew up in the west suburbs, but at just an hour's ride from the city, I spent countless weekends exploring Chicago. I then went to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, roaming the endless cornfields and southern forests. Today, my ecology master's thesis is on Illinois prairies. Though I primarily live abroad now, Illinois is and always will be my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag interprets the vast expanse of Illinois's agricultural, rural, and natural land, set against the equally vast prairie sky. By area, Illinois is a state of agriculture. Each color represents some of the varying aspects of Illinois's land, from golden waves of corn and spring green soybeans to the fall colors of the harvest and the prairie. The single star, centered in the endless sky, positions Illinois as one star of America's fifty, a union to which we should always strive to perfect.



1731

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Broadview, Illinois, and lived just outside Chicago until I was five, when my parents moved our family to Lisle. I grew up in the west suburbs, but at just an hour's ride from the city, I spent countless weekends exploring Chicago. I then went to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, roaming the endless cornfields and southern forests. Today, my ecology master's thesis is on Illinois prairies. Though I primarily live abroad now, Illinois is and always will be my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag combines four of Illinois's most prominent features; the metropolis of Chicago, the vast fields of agriculture, the deep forests of the state's south, and the rivers that make up our state's borders. Shapes are simplified while still being identifiable as parts of Illinois and hope to represent a unified whole instead of just one part. The single star, centered in the endless sky, positions Illinois as one star of America's fifty, a union to which we should always strive to perfect.



1732

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Galesburg IL and my husband and I have raised our family in Eureka. My children and grandchildren also reside in the state. I love riding my bicycle on the country roads in Woodford county. The scenery and scents bring me joy!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is known as the Land of Lincoln and also the Prairie State. This flag design incorporates Abraham Lincoln's silhouette and the green prairie/field, also acknowledging the state's agricultural excellence. I've also included 21 stars for Illinois becoming the 21st U.S. state in 1818. In addition, the design from the Chicago flag appears because of Chicago's importance in our history, economy and politics.



1733

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Galesburg IL and my husband and I have raised our family in Eureka. My children and grandchildren also reside in the state. I love riding my bicycle on the country roads in Woodford county. The scenery and scents bring me joy!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

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1734

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Galesburg IL and my husband and I have raised our family in Eureka. My children and grandchildren also reside in the state. I love riding my bicycle on the country roads in Woodford county. The scenery and scents bring me joy!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is known as the Land of Lincoln and also the Prairie State. This flag design incorporates Abraham Lincoln's silhouette, and the blue sky above the green prairie/field, also acknowledging the state's agricultural excellence. In addition, I've included the design from the Chicago flag because of Chicago's importance in our history, economy and politics.

1735

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is deep-rooted, as I have lived in Orland Park, Illinois my entire life. At 23 years old, I've developed a strong connection to the state and its culture. I've always had a keen interest in flags, which has led me to appreciate not only Illinois's state flag but also the various flags that represent the diverse communities and history within the state. This passion for flags has enriched my understanding of Illinois and its unique identity.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripes represent the importance that the Mississippi river and Lake Michigan have played in Illinois history. The specific blue is the same blue on the American flag. The green stripe represents our agrarian industry and nature. Yellow represents the corn and wheat industry. The 20 stars represent the states that came before Illinois statehood and the big star in the middle represents Illinois. The circle around the stars represents the importance of unity and diversity.

1736



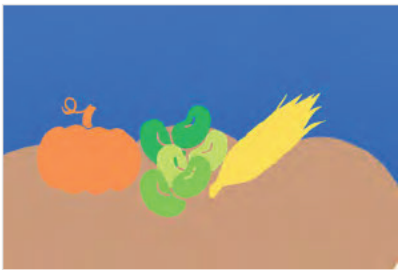
Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois. I have resided in Quincy Il, for 9 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

First of all the Red Star represents the metropolitan area. The yellow represents the crops and prosperity of Illinois. The green represents the agriculture of Illinois. The white represents the peace Illinois seeks to create. And the blue squiggly line represents the rivers in Illinois. Namely the Mississippi and Illinois River.

1737



Relationship to Illinois

I love the land and the place because I lived here my whole life and it is pretty if I look at it in the right angle.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made it like this because of the farm land.

1738



Relationship to Illinois

I have gone to school in Illinois since I was born. I plan to live in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the orange for illini. the blue for mississippi river. Illinois for we are Illinois.

1739



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois. I go to school in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green at the bottom stands for the fields and prairies. The seven stars stand for the corn and other food Illinois makes.



1740

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the planes are for our love for crops.



1741

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, and have lived here my whole life. I was born in Savoy near Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of all the details on my flag is to represent Illinois. I still really hope my friend wins, the flag that is blue and orange faded with the word Illinois.



1742

Relationship to Illinois

I have a relationship to Illinois because I was born here and I have grown up here. I currently still living in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange and blue on my flag represent the fighting Illini, I think blue and orange represents Illinois very well. It's bright and colorful. It can be seen from very far away.



1743

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois. I live on a farm and lots of fun.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I did a pumpkin for the amount of pumpkins in Illinois. I did twenty one stars for the being the twenty first state. I did blue and orange to match.



1744

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and also go to school here. I was born here to I live in white Heath.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green in my flag is the all grass in Illinois. The yellow is the wheat and corn. There is 21 stars because we where the 21st state.



1745

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life. it is fun here and has lots of people.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is the corn and pumpkins. It also has cardinals.



1746

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Champaign Urbana IL, I lived in Champaign for the first 8 years of my life. I have lived in White Heath IL for 2 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow half circle represents corn. The line of green represents the leaves around the corn. The blue represents the sky.



1747

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I still live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the blue represents the mississippi and lake michigan (water) and the yellow and the wheat represents ag. there is 21 stars because were're the 21 state.



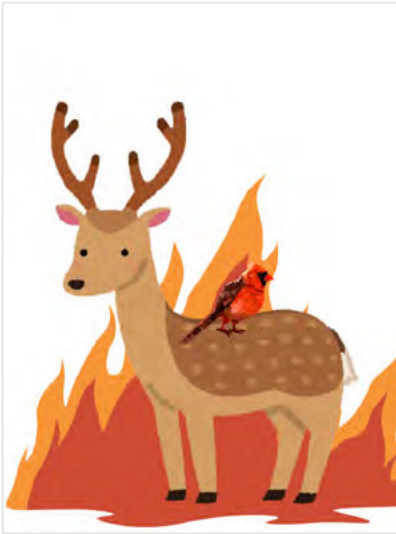
1748

Relationship to Illinois

I lived here forever, I grew up here and went to school here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue explains the lake Mississippi, the tan and brown explains the skin colors, purple explains the lake Michigan.



1749

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is a deer with a cardinal on top of it, with a fire behind. The deer is the Illinois state animal, the cardinal is the Illinois state bird, and the fire represents the great Chicago fire.



1750

Relationship to Illinois

I as a student at white heath elementary have lived in Illinois my hole life and have always enjoyed riding In tracters on the farms.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the yellow represents all the crops like beans corn and pumpkins. The blue sky represents the cool weather here in Illinois. the sun represents the 70-80 degree weather in the summer and late spring.



1751

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and have lived here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The penny represents Abe Lincoln who is an icon of Illinois. The red stars and blue and red stripes represents Chicago the most popular city in Illinois.



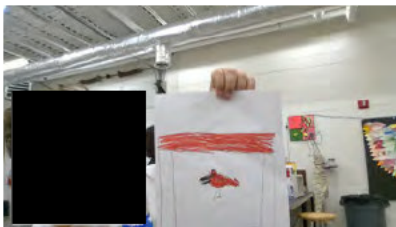
1752

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I am a resident of Arlington Heights

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag entry is the state bird, a cardinal, holding our state flower, a violet. I would like the background to also be blue. Have a great day.



1753

Relationship to Illinois

i as born in illinois and this is a school prodject

Explain the meaning behind your flag

i think this bc its the states bird

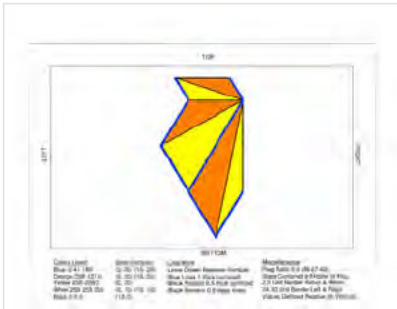
1754

Relationship to Illinois

I am an engineer who was born and currently lives in the Great State of Illinois.* I have deep respect for our state's history and have lived or traveled to all the corners of the state.* I was born in Chicagoland, educated in Central Illinois, have vacationed in southern Illinois, and currently live in northern Illinois.* In my career I have traveled to and worked on jobs from the banks of the Mississippi River to the shores Lake Michigan.* I wish to celebrate my state and share this pride.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue waterways are our past; representing geology, native inhabitants and French exploration of the land. The black radials are railroads, highways, and status as a logistical nexus for the nation. The iron sectors represent our present as an industrial and economic power. The maize sectors represent our future as a prosperous and fertile land that feeds the dreams and bodies of all Illinoisians. The white background recalls prior flags and shape's proportions approximate real geography.



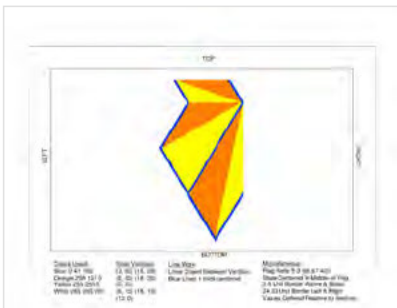
1755

Relationship to Illinois

I am an engineer who was born and currently lives in the Great State of Illinois.* I have deep respect for our state's history and have lived or traveled to all the corners of the state.* I was born in Chicagoland, educated in Central Illinois, have vacationed in southern Illinois, and currently live in northern Illinois.* In my career I have traveled to and worked on jobs from the banks of the Mississippi River to the shores Lake Michigan.* I wish to celebrate my state and share this pride.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue waterways are our past; representing geology, native inhabitants and French exploration of the land. The radial pattern represents roads, rail, and status as a logistical nexus for the nation. The iron sectors represent our present as an industrial and economic power. The maize sectors represent our future as a prosperous and fertile land that feeds the dreams and bodies of all Illinoisians. The white background recalls prior flags and shape's proportions approximate real geography.



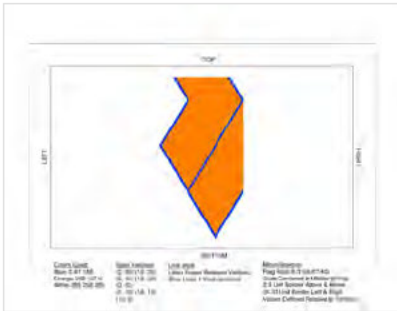
1756

Relationship to Illinois

I am an engineer who was born and currently lives in the Great State of Illinois.* I have deep respect for our state's history and have lived or traveled to all the corners of the state.* I was born in Chicagoland, educated in Central Illinois, have vacationed in southern Illinois, and currently live in northern Illinois.* In my career I have traveled to and worked on jobs from the banks of the Mississippi River to the shores Lake Michigan.* I wish to celebrate my state and share this pride.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue waterways are our past; representing geology, native inhabitants and French exploration of the land. The orange color represents both our present and future. Orange as iron represent our present as an industrial, logistic, and economic power. Autumnal orange represents fall corn harvests and our future as a prosperous and fertile land that feeds the dreams and bodies of all Illinoisians. The white background recalls prior flags and shape's proportions approximate real geography.



1757

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I simplified Illinois' seal and turned it into a single icon, while preserving the yellow sun, blue water, green leaves and including an orange circle inside of the sun as a nod to Illinois' pumpkin industry.



1758

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included the white tailed deer since it's the official state animal. It's leaping in an upward motion mimicing Illinois upward trajectory. The orange stripe represents Illinois' agricultural industry and the dark blue stripes represent it's two main bodies of water: Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River.



1759

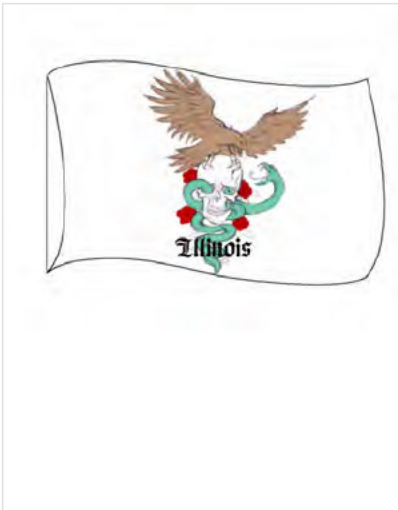


Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to create a flag that represented Illinois' status as the number one pumpkin growing state in the US and reflected our dedication to technology and industry. So I combined the atom symbol with the shape of a pumpkin (if you were looking top down). The star in the middle is a nod to Chicago.



1760

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Midlothian, Illinois. I am happy here Illinois is my home

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is not all people live the life they want but others can. People of color get blamed for doing nothing.



1761

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green was for our vast fields and the yellow was for our sunlight without the mountains. The black Abe Lincoln represents that we are the Land of Lincoln.



1762

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

18 because we were made a state in 1818



1763

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think the corn represents Illinois because of our crops.



1764

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange and blue are for the states colors and the pine trees cover 75 percent of Illinois. The deer is our state animal.



1765

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose blue and orange for Illini and a deer because our state animal is a White Tailed Deer

1766



Relationship to Illinois

Me and ost of my family all live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put the green for all the plains in Illinois and the yellow for the times that the sun is setting but the sky is still trying to be lit up. The small blue triangle is for the small lake that aren't to small but are small compared to other states

1767



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green is for the Agriculture. The blue is the water. Finally the yellow is for the corn. I didn't want to use straight lines so I used squiggly lines. I think it looks pretty cool.

1768



Relationship to Illinois

I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stripes are for America, the deer is for our state animal.

1769

Relationship to Illinois

Hello, my name is Anakin [REDACTED]. My roots run deep with Illinois. Living in Belleville provides a unique perspective of Illinois and I believe my flag represents all citizens of Illinois. I was raised here since the age of four. I am now raising my own children, my one year old [REDACTED], and my two year old [REDACTED]. I am a proud father but I am also a proud teacher. It would mean so much to me, my children, and my students, to have my flag design flown in the state of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The ax symbolizes Illinois' history (Lincoln, the Rail-splitter), agriculture, and workforce. Its copper color represents the penny featuring Lincoln. The blue stripe across the white field stands for the Illinois River, vital to wildlife, agriculture, and transportation for Native Americans and Europeans. Two small stars represent North and South, and a large star for Illinois forms the number 21, marking Illinois as the 21st state. The white field honors the current state flag.

1770

Relationship to Illinois

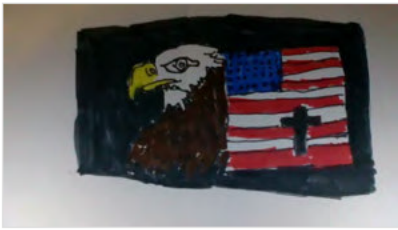
I moved to Illinois in 2022. My Fiance was offered a job in the booming warehouse industry and we knew there would be prosperity in moving to Illinois. Just after accepting the offer for his job we found out we would be having our first born here. This made moving from multiple states away especially difficult but, when greater things are ahead you must push through the hard times. Illinois has become our home and is now where we are raising our little family with a beautiful community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The why behind the Y. Illinois' motto reflects a balance between state control and national unity. The Y symbol in Chicago represents the branches of the Chicago River, emphasizing the city's historical ties to its waterways. Known for its diversity, Illinois has a strong agricultural base in rural areas and is home to Chicago, one of the nation's largest cities. As a key transportation hub, Illinois plays a vital role in both the local and national economy, culture, and political development.

1771



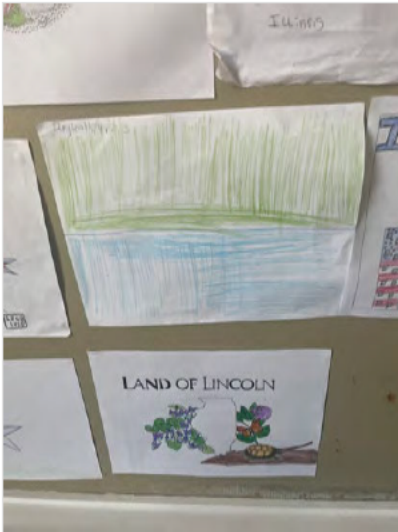
Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I attend school in Illinois as a 5th grader.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put an eagle on the flag because it is our nation's bird. We put the American flag for the US.

1772



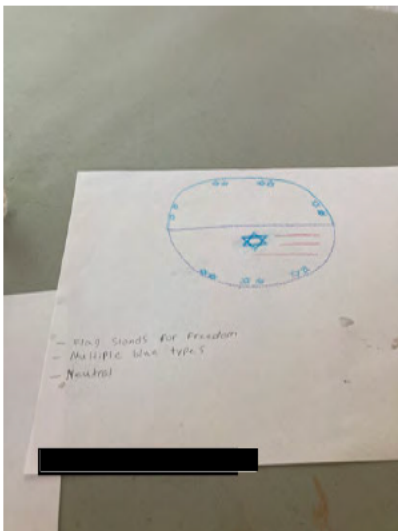
Relationship to Illinois

Person

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's a teacher assignment

1773



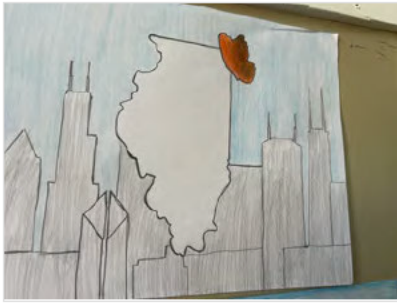
Relationship to Illinois

Neutral

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag stands for freedom, Multiple types of blue used Neutral relation with Illinois

The flag stands for freedom, Multiple types of blue used Neutral relation with Illinois



1774

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here all my life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

As the city of Chicago is mainly what Illinois is known for, I included the skyline as the main objective in the background, along with the silhouette of Illinois and the state butterfly.



1775

Relationship to Illinois

Hello! My name is [REDACTED], and I am 16 years old. I have lived in Illinois my whole life, I used to live in Chicago and now I live in the more suburbs part of Illinois. I go to downtown often, usually to either Chinatown, or Downtown Chicago. I've also visited some colleges out in the suburbs and have been to Springfield!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of my flag is to show what Illinois is, half of it being the city of Chicago, and the other half being the farmland since Illinois has lots of farm. I have 2 different versions, one as a circle with water and farmland and the other with just the design.



1776

Relationship to Illinois

Mother to student of illinois hs

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Housing of illinois and Scholling

1777

Relationship to Illinois

I [REDACTED] moved here from Puerto Rico at the age of 4 and came to Chicago and I've lived here now for 10 or 11 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It stands for all the environmental elements that Illinois is known for and shows their beauty. It depicts the state flower the Violets, the state insect The Monarch Butterfly, and the state reptile the painted turtle.



1778

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors of red, white, and blue represent the colors of the American Flag. The Red also represents the Cardinal (IL state bird), The White represents the White Oak tree (IL state tree), and the Blue represents the sky and water. A circle of 20 stars with the addition of 1 large star in the middle, with the total number of stars being 21. The 21 stars on the above flag symbolize Illinois as the 21st state to be admitted to the union.



1779

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors of red, white, and blue represent the colors of the American Flag. The Red also represents the Cardinal (IL state bird), The White represents the White Oak tree (IL state tree), and the Blue represents the sky and water. The three 6-pointed stars represent the Mississippi River, the Illinois River and Waterway system, and Lake Michigan. The 6 points on the 3 stars shown above each have a combined number of 18 points, with the 3 stars totaling 21, with IL becoming the 21st state.



1780

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors of red, white, and blue represent the colors of the American Flag. The Red also represents the Cardinal (IL state bird), The White represents the White Oak tree (IL state tree), and the Blue represents the sky and water. The shield in the white is the shield that can be seen in the Illinois State Seal, within that shield there are 13 vertical red and white stripes and 13 white stars in a blue background, which represent the original 13 colonies.



1781

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bars at the top and bottom represent the Illinois and Mississippi River. The diamond in the center has 4 points, representing the 4 presidents who have called Illinois home. Lincoln is classic Illinois iconography, and is included for his historical contributions to the State and Nation. Red, white, and blue color scheme evoked American Ideals while the lighter shade of blue looks more like Chicago's flag.



1782

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois student in Chicago Public Schools.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sunset represents the history of Chicago and of the colors of The Great Chicago Fire. The city represents Chicago, Downtown and (the tallest building in the picture) The Willis Tower. Finally, the water in the picture represents Lake Michigan.



1783

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - As per SB 1818, sponsored by Sen. Doris Turner, enclosed is my submission for consideration of a new flag for our state. I initially circulated this proposal to Sen. Turner and Sen. Jil Tracy last year. Additionally, I sent copies to Rep. C.D. Davidsmeyer and Rep. Amy Elik.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-Blue symbolizes the sweet clear air that nourishes our state & caresses the towers & structures which adorn our land. Green symbolizes rich, fertile soil that feeds our nation & the world. Red symbolizes blood of the people who settled & built our state & blood shed to defend our nation. The state symbol proudly announces who we are & uniting the colors, showing pride in our past (ground) & our drive into the future. The 3 stripes are not equal to remind us that freedom is perishable.

1784

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The attached is a rendered copy of the Wallace Rice centennial flag. It was already designed for the state in 1918 by a renowned designer. The 20 smaller stars recognize the 10 northern and 10 southern states and the large represents Illinois as the 21st state.



1785

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, Illinois and am an Illinois resident now.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag is Golden Ratio rectangle; long side horizontal. Blue: all our bodies of water. Green: forests. Yellow: prairies. Parallel diagonal bands: motion of these elements and people. Red stars for Chicago's star (without breaking rules). 21 stars for Illinois as 21st State. Curved rows for rivers on both sides of divide. Single center star for Chicago Portage. Red honors Native Americans who introduced Europeans to Portage. Bald eagle USA national bird; also very important to Native Americans.



1786

Relationship to Illinois

I have only lived in Illinois for three years, but my wife is an Illinois native. Her family is of Greek descent, and they have lived in and around Chicago for several generations.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag shows Illinois as a meeting place between prairie and water. The golden waves represent our state nickname of "The Prairie State" and abundant fields of grain. The blue waves represent Lake Michigan, the Illinois River, the Ohio River and the Mississippi. The dividing line between land and water represents the shore of Lake Michigan. The red star represents Chicago, with six points signifying diversity. (The red star and blue color are adopted from the famous flag of Chicago.)

1787

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is I was born in Chicago Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that it is something different and it brings pride and it is unique.

1788

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my proud home. When I first arrived in Chicago, its beauty and architecture mesmerized me. After living in Florida, I returned for the culture and hardworking people. I love exploring parks like Starved Rock and became a U.S. citizen here, deepening my connection. Now living in Evanston, I'm inspired by Illinois' history and charm and have no plans to leave. It's a state where hard work leads to success, and that's why I love it.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features a gold background representing Illinois' prosperity and agricultural richness. The central red, blue, white, and gray shapes symbolize unity, diversity, and industrial strength, while the blue stripe on the left represents the state's lakes and rivers. The arrow-like shapes suggest forward progress and the state's role as a meeting point for different communities and ideas, reflecting Illinois' rich history and ongoing development.

1789

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois, and I have lived here my whole life. I really love this state and everything about it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design contains all of the state symbols such as the white tailed deer, tainted turtle, and so much more. My second flag design is much more simple, with the Illinois state motto inscribed on a banner imposed across an outline of the state. I know the picture is a little wonky, but I really enjoyed making them.



1790

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 2021 with my wife and daughter. This was our second interstate move after many years of post-secondary education and training for me. From California, we relocated to Connecticut, and five years later we came to the Chicagoland. After feeling for a long time that we couldn't put down roots, we are happy to have finally found a permanent home, to settle down, and to raise our daughter in Illinois, surrounded by everything the state has to offer.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The central tower represents Willis Tower, and more broadly, the city of Chicago. The green field at left represents the many green agricultural fields of the state. The blue field at right represents Lake Michigan. The yellow field at the top represents the sun and sky over Illinois. Accompanying these are the name of the state and the dates of statehood and of this new flag design.

1791

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 2021 with my wife and daughter. This was our second interstate move after many years of post-secondary education and training for me. From California, we relocated to Connecticut, and five years later we came to the Chicagoland. After feeling for a long time that we couldn't put down roots, we are happy to have finally found a permanent home, to settle down, and to raise our daughter in Illinois, surrounded by everything the state has to offer.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A state map state is surrounded by symbols of our diverse resources. A violet (state flower) and a monarch (state butterfly) represent natural beauty. Willis Tower represents business, industry, innovation, and the city of Chicago, while corn represents our agricultural legacy. A melon from Illinois was a key early source of penicillin, so a melon represents our role in starting a revolution in medicine. Accompanying the state name and slogan are the dates of statehood and of this new design.

1792

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 2021 with my wife and daughter. This was our second interstate move after many years of post-secondary education and training for me. From California, we relocated to Connecticut, and five years later we came to the Chicagoland. After feeling for a long time that we couldn't put down roots, we are happy to have finally found a permanent home, to settle down, and to raise our daughter in Illinois, surrounded by everything the state has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A state map state is surrounded by symbols of our diverse resources. A violet (state flower) and a monarch (state butterfly) represent natural beauty. Willis Tower represents business, industry, innovation, and the city of Chicago, while corn represents our agricultural legacy. A melon from Illinois was a key early source of penicillin, so a melon represents our role in starting a revolution in medicine. Accompanying the state name and slogan are the dates of statehood and of this new design.



1793

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois. I was born here and lived here all my life. I work as a teacher in Oak Lawn, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My students drew a cardinal in the center to replace the eagle since the cardinal is the state bird. The blue represents Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and the Illinois River which are all important bodies of water to the state. The red represents the land. They wanted to keep it simple as suggested.



1794

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life (I'm eight years old).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the colors and wanted a star.



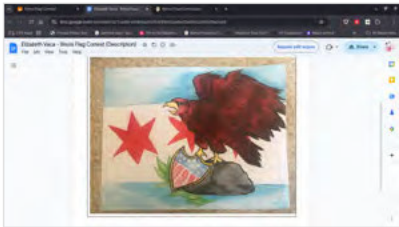
1795

Relationship to Illinois

This was been my home land when I was given birth here, as thing were difficult for me but I was giving some help and care to this life in the state and I would give my respect to this homeland for my nation and I'm grateful for being part of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag would represent our state in Chicago as to our justice, our care, and even mostly our freedom of nation. It tells us about our cultures and freedom of our nation as we grew to our kind to be in open arms for what I believe, as I would think in our flag. My relationship to the Chicago Illinois flag is that it signifies the kind of people who can have a chance to unite together to become one big community of a world to be living in.



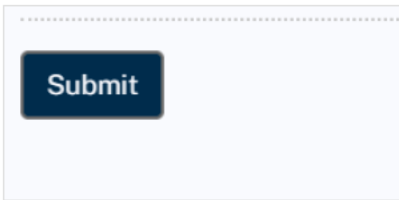
1796

Relationship to Illinois

test

Explain the meaning behind your flag

test



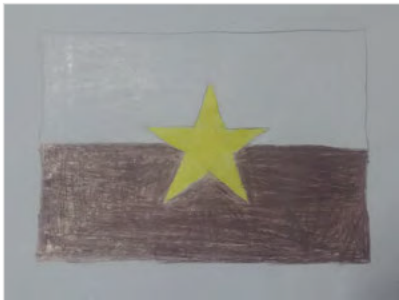
1797

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I thought of another way to use the bald eagle as a flag design.



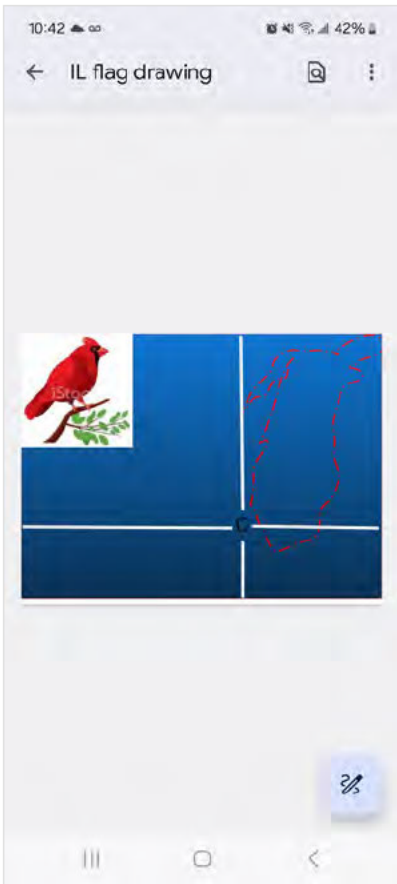
1798

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Broadview, Illinois, and lived just outside Chicago until I was five, when my parents moved our family to Lisle. I grew up in the west suburbs, but at just an hour's ride from the city, I spent countless weekends exploring Chicago. I then went to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, roaming the endless cornfields and southern forests. Today, my ecology master's thesis is on Illinois prairies. Though I primarily live abroad now, Illinois is and always will be my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design takes one of Illinois's most prominent features, its vast expanses of flat open space, and imagines it as a star-spangled landscape in red, white, and blue. Borrowing the coloration from the entire American flag, the red and white stripes represent the endless fields of the Illinois landscape underneath a vast blue prairie sky. The single star, centered above the land, positions Illinois as one star of America's fifty, a union to which we should always strive to perfect.



1799

Relationship to Illinois

I am a high school student in IL. I moved to the United States from China two years ago. Since coming here, my eyes have been opened and I have fallen in love with IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue color represents that IL is a blue state that supports the Democratic Party. The red bird in the upper left corner is the state bird - the cardinal; its position is based on the Australian flag. On the right is Lake Michigan. There is a C in the southwest of the lake, which represents the largest city in Illinois - Chicago. The crosshairs represent that Chicago is the cross center of American transportation and the heart of the interior.



1800

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Decatur Il

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think it would show solidarity in the people of our state. That all skin colors matter in our state. It takes all of us to love this state so we have to stand together.

1801

Relationship to Illinois

I am a born and raised resident of Illinois and have been my whole life. I've completed over 16 years of schooling in Illinois institutions (Lewis University, College of DuPage, Neuqua Valley HS, PMSA, and Stevenson K-8). My parents were raised here, my grandparents immigrated to this country here. I met my beautiful wife during High School here and, together, we are raising our new baby boy here. My roots are firmly in Illinois and will remain here (more than likely) till the end of my days.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For the color, I chose "Prussian Blue". This color was used for Union uniforms during the American Civil War. Many Americans don't know the large impact Illinois volunteers had in this war. I believe it was our first major impact on our nation by our state. I arranged 5 white "Chicago" 6-point stars in a Pentagon fashion. I borrowed the stars to pay homage to Chicago's flag. However, I made them white to make clear that this flag was Illinois and the 5th star represents our state's new identity.



1802

Relationship to Illinois

I am a born and raised resident of Illinois and have been my whole life. I've completed over 16 years of schooling in Illinois institutions (Lewis University, College of DuPage, Neuqua Valley HS, PMSA, and Stevenson K-8). My parents were raised here, my grandparents immigrated to this country here. I met my beautiful wife during High School here and, together, we are raising our new baby boy here. My roots are firmly in Illinois and will remain here (more than likely) till the end of my days.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

For the color, I chose "Prussian Blue". This color was used for Union uniforms during the American Civil War. Many Americans don't know the large impact Illinois volunteers had in this war. I believe it was our first major impact on our nation by our state. I arranged 5 white "Chicago" 6-point stars in a Square fashion. I borrowed the stars to pay homage to Chicago's flag. However, I made them white to make clear that this flag was Illinois and the 5th center star represents Springfield itself.

1803

Relationship to Illinois

I am a born and raised resident of Illinois and have been my whole life. I've completed over 16 years of schooling in Illinois institutions (Lewis University, College of DuPage, Neuqua Valley HS, PMSA, and Stevenson K-8). My parents were raised here, my grandparents immigrated to this country here. I met my beautiful wife during High School here and, together, we are raising our new baby boy here. My roots are firmly in Illinois and will remain here (more than likely) till the end of my days.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

For the color, I chose "Prussian Blue". This color was used for Union uniforms during the American Civil War. Many Americans don't know the large impact Illinois volunteers had in this war. I believe it was our first major impact on our nation by our state. I arranged 5 white stars in a Square fashion to pay homage to Chicago while making clear that this flag was Illinois. 5-point stars were on the flags of Illinois regiment banners. The 5th star represents our state's new identity. My favorite.



1804

Relationship to Illinois

██████ has lived in Illinois all his life! He is 7 years old

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"The Eastern Tiger Salamander is the state amphibian."



1806

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois follows as I have lived here my entire life, of 31 years. I was born here, raised here, and continue to live and raise my kids in the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag follows as such, with the blue background representing the great mississippi river and other small lakes around Illinois. Followed by the purple flower is to represent the state flower as a violet and with the placement of the flower being Springfield, the capital of Illinois. The blackhat is to represent Abraham Lincoln as the state has gained a nickname over the years as "Land of Lincoln" also serving as a symbol of leadership. The yellow/gold is to represent wisdom.



1807

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bars at the top and bottom represent the Illinois and Mississippi River. The diamond in the center has 4 points, representing the 4 presidents who have called Illinois home. Lincoln is classic Illinois iconography, and is included for his historical contributions to the State and Nation. Red, white, and blue color scheme evoked American Ideals while the lighter shade of blue looks more like Chicago's flag.

1808

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and my grandparents came here from Greece in search of opportunity and freedom.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the flag the blue borders represent the major rivers that make up our border or flow within the state (Ohio, Mississippi, Illinois and Wabash). In the middle there are 20 small stars forming a circle around one big star this resembles us being the 21st state of America. The red color of the stars represent people in the military and the first responders fighting for our freedom and helping us every day of the year. The white background resembles the hope for Illinois and its people.



1809

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and my grandparents came here from Greece in search of opportunity and freedom.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the flag the blue borders represent the major rivers that make up our border or flow within the state (Ohio, Mississippi, Illinois and Wabash). In the middle there are 20 small stars forming a circle around one big star this resembles us being the 21st state of America. The red color of the stars represent people in the military and the first responders fighting for our freedom and helping us every day of the year. The white background resembles the hope for Illinois and its people.



1810

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I feel like it truly follows the theme of the whole state of Illinois



1811

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived my entire life of 41 years in Illinois. The first 18 were surrounded by farmland, outside of city limits in rural Ogle County. Then I went to college where lived in the suburbs and ultimately ended up in Chicago for the past 17 years. There is no other state I would rather live in and call my home. I have immense pride in Illinois because of our future, history and diversity; from Chicago to Cahokia to Cairo and all the towns, prairies, cornfields and forests in-between.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 7-point stars represent urban, suburban and rural Illinois. Combined, they add up to us being the 21st state. The amber trails behind the stars represent our agriculture: corn, soy beans and pumpkins. In the negative space between the stars, an arrowhead is formed. This is to honor the native peoples of the area. The blue stripes represent our border rivers and Lake Michigan. The amber stripe is for our prairies. The white background pays tribute to the current flag and our bright future.



1812

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The crops and things in Illinois



1813

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

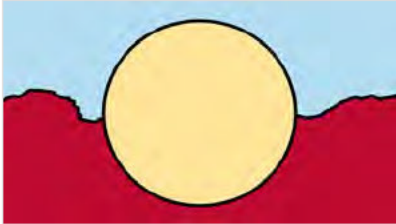
Illinois



1814

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a high school senior who has lived in Illinois all my life, as have my parents. I live in rural central Illinois. I love how I live in a small town, but Chicago is only 3 hours away. I've loved growing up in Illinois. I live by the Illinois River, which is beautiful and has helped me develop an appreciation for the beauty of water. One of my favorite things to do is go hiking, but I also love being able to watch the soybean fields when it's windy out. Lastly, the sunsets here are beautiful.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

3 sections: Roughly the same size to symbolize the equal importance of all parts of Il
The blue of Chicago flag
Red represents the USA
Yellow for the crops (yellow is a farm-y color). Curves represent the waterways that are important to Illinois. Chicago, Mississippi, and Illinois River. The curve is actually in the shape of Mississippi River along Il, just flattened. The circle can rep Lincoln's top hat (from the top view). Also the sun, because Illinois has beautiful sunsets.

1815

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here my entire life, 50+ years!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

By utilizing all key elements of an existing design, the State of Illinois can save millions of dollars by not having to replace all of the flags in the state



1816

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived my entire life of 41 years in Illinois. The first 18 were surrounded by farmland, outside of city limits in rural Ogle County. Then I went to college where lived in the suburbs and ultimately ended up in Chicago for the past 17 years. There is no other state I would rather live in and call my home. I have immense pride in Illinois because of our future, history and diversity. From Chicago to Cahokia to Cairo and all the towns, prairies, cornfields and forests in-between.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green stripe is for our prairies, forests and agriculture. The blue stripe for our waterways. The top stripe keeps white in our flag from the previous design and represents our snow-covered winters and bright future. There are 21 stars for the 21st state, arranged in the basic shape of Illinois. The design is a nod to our Centennial flag, with a large white star on a blue stripe and smaller stars above and below. Three stripes for the diversity of north, central and southern Illinois.

1817

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a proud Illinois resident. I've lived here my entire life. Out of all the fifty states, one capital district, and five unincorporated territories in this Union, there is nowhere I'd rather reside than the great State of Illinois. I've studied our State's history, and I've been adjusting my three design submissions for about a year now in preparation for this opportunity. I am excited to present my flag designs to the Government of Illinois, and I thank you all for considering them.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The horizontal stripe represents the Illinois Confederation, to which we owe our name. The vertical stripe is a letter "I" for "Illinois", and also represents the Illinois River. The yellow represents the farming industry, and the stars represent, clockwise from top left, The United States, Lake Michigan, Chicago, and Springfield. No other administrative division in this part of the world has a flag I could find quartered in this way, and the historic coat of arms is an optional inclusion.

1818

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a proud Illinois resident. I've lived here my entire life. Out of all the fifty states, one capital district, and five unincorporated territories in this Union, there is nowhere I'd rather reside than the great State of Illinois. I've studied our State's history, and I've been adjusting my three design submissions for about a year now in preparation for this opportunity. I am excited to present my flag designs to the Government of Illinois, and I thank you all for considering them.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Like my first design, this submission features the Illinois River. This flag also follows the rules of tincture, which few State flags do. I've chosen that the stars represent the Native Americans and the Europeans, but I know that isn't the most meaningful symbolism. That's the nice thing about flag design though. You can attach whatever meaning you want to the flag. I'm sure the Government of Illinois can come up with more meaningful symbolism than I can.

1819

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a proud Illinois resident. I've lived here my entire life. Out of all the fifty states, one capital district, and five unincorporated territories in this Union, there is nowhere I'd rather reside than the great State of Illinois. I've studied our State's history, and I've been adjusting my three design submissions for about a year now in preparation for this opportunity. I am excited to present my flag designs to the Government of Illinois, and I thank you all for considering them.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is the design I'm most proud of. The blue stripe this time represents the Mississippi River. Yellow once again represents the farming industry and rural majority of the state. Illinois is a unique state. Hence, we need a unique flag. In a sea of seals on bedsheets, what's more unique than an irregular shape, like a swallowtail? This design would look very distinguishable no matter the viewing condition. It also vaguely invokes both Springfield and Chicago's flag designs, so it's relatable.

1820

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Berwyn, and maybe once a month I commute to the city by my own or with friends using the CTA lines, so people outside of Chicago, or the suburbs, can come to the city of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Lincoln in the middle of the Illinois state shape is supposed to represent the fact that this is the land of Lincoln, and the star represents the freedom that Illinois has out of all states, and the lines on both sides are the CTA lines that bring us around the country from suburbs to cities.



1821

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A Monarch butterfly sits atop a green field. It is bordered on three sides by wavy blue lines that represent the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash Rivers. The upper right corner is also blue, representing Lake Michigan. 21 stars are placed below the butterfly, noting Illinois as the 21st state to enter the Union.



1822

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Kankakee and raised in Washington. My wife is from Metamora.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A monarch butterfly flying in the sky over the Illinois prairie, reminding us all that we can go twice as high, do anything, and go anywhere. 21 stars represent the order in which Illinois joined the Union



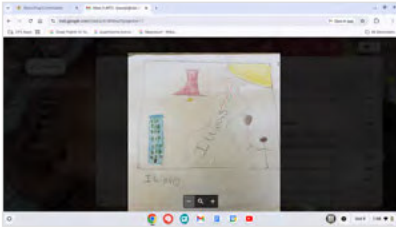
1823

Relationship to Illinois

Hello My name is [REDACTED] I am a student at a Chicago Public School who is entering the Illinois Flag contest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have included a bell and it represents the bell on Maxwell Street. Why I put it is because it represents time and a beginning and end. The colors I chose were red and yellow. The next thing I put is People and it represents an entire nation. I put it because we all belong and that really stood out to me. The other one is a building that shows the might and wealth of the emperor, their ownership and mastery of the land. Another thing is that I put the sun because it just brings out our city.



1824

Relationship to Illinois

Yea

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Yes



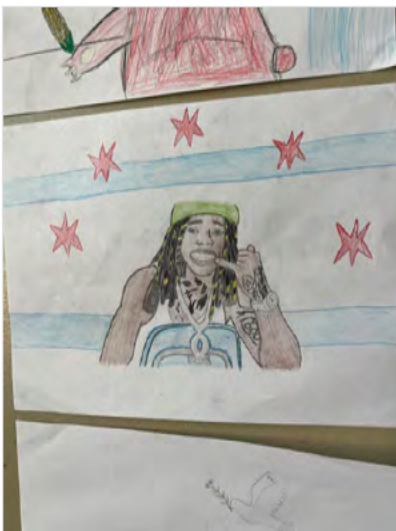
1825

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here for years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag shows the 5 red stars and on of chicagos most famous rappers





1826

Relationship to Illinois

Lived in the U.S for over 25+ years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white background of the Illinois flag represents peace. Its round logo, which symbolizes the identity of the state of Illinois, has a simple orange outline of the state in the center. Twelve red and blue stars also surround the seal; these stars stand for the important Illinois events and people. The colors and shapes design successfully mixes unity and state pride to create a powerful visual image of Illinois.

I've lived in this state for my whole life and I have been a citizen for 17 yea



1827

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Chicago public student at Alcott college prep in Chicago [REDACTED]

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag stands for everything that Illinois is known for some features that the flag has is the shield with 13 bars that represent the first 13 states also the northern cardinal stands for it being the state bird and the rock that has Illinois engraved in it shows how long it has been a state being the 21st state

1828

Relationship to Illinois

This flag really made me open my kindness to everyone that I use to feel scared if I would be mistreated from other people but I saw the light from in their national sign that it was greeting in open arms and had no threats as it would make me feel like this would be my home for all of my 17 years living here. Thank Chicago for making me feel good and making me not to be afraid of this place to call homeland.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag would represent our state in Chicago as to our justice, our care, and even mostly our freedom of nation. It tells us about our culture and freedom of our nation as we grew to our kind to be in open arms for what I believe, as I would think our flag. My relationship to the Chicago Illinois flag is that signifies the kinds of people who can have a chance to untie together to become one big community of a world to be living in.



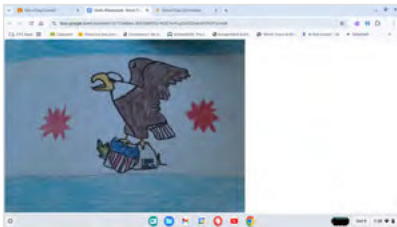
1829

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is good, the state provides me with all the materials I need like food and water.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors represent the city that I love. The eagle represents freedom. The strips represent the great lake and the Chicago river.



1830

Relationship to Illinois

I am submitting for my student, [REDACTED]. Her relationship to Illinois and the meaning behind her flag below are her words: Norah: I was born in Illinois and still live here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lincoln's outline is in the background because our state motto is "Land of Lincoln". The background is blue as a majority of our state is democratic. Next I put 21 stars because we were the 21st state. I put a white oak tree in the middle of Lincoln because it is our state tree, a cardinal because it is our state bird, and then I put the Indian spear at the bottom because the Illiniwek tribe started in Illinois. Then lastly I put the year 1818 on one side because its our founding year.

1831

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois. I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois learning about IL history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think they should pick my flag because it is really cool and there is a pretty star on it. The star represents the state capitol, and the blue and yellow colors on it represent state capitals. Purple is one of my favorite colors and it represents me. I chose this design because not a lot of flags has this design. I thought that this design was very unique and interesting. Right when I got this paper this was the first design I could think of, so tha is why I think you should pick my flag.



1832

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is red and white because it's our main colors and has a buck and two butterflies to represent our state animal and insect.





1833

Relationship to Illinois

I lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 4 stars and city is from Chicago and they are 2/3 of Illinois population. Then there is corn and a golden yellow color to represent the agriculture of Illinois.

1834

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I don't have a personal relationship to Illinois, but I have long had an interest in US history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-3 horizontal bands represent IL regions from north to south. Blue evokes industry & Lake Michigan (north), Lincoln Green recalls the states nickname (Land of Lincoln) & represents the prairie (central); & orange symbolizes Little Egypt of (south). The colors also connect with the states flagship university, U of I Urbana-Champaign. A large white star is center encircled by 20 small ones, signifying admission as 21st state of the Union & the state motto State Sovereignty, National Union.



1835

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I don't have a personal relationship to Illinois, but I have long had an interest in US history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-21 stars signifying admission as the 21st state of the Union are arranged in an "i" for Illinois. The topmost star is larger and in gold, symbolizing the state motto: State Sovereignty, National Union. The field of Lincoln Green alludes to two of the state's nicknames: Land of Lincoln and Prairie State.



1836

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I don't have a personal relationship to Illinois, but I have long had an interest in US history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-21 stars arranged in a star formation, signifying admission as the 21st state of the Union. The central star is larger and in gold, symbolizing the state motto: State Sovereignty, National Union. The field of Lincoln Green alludes to two of the state's nicknames: Land of Lincoln and Prairie State.



1837

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the northwest part of Illinois and have always lived here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

To show unity between our nations mascot and our State bird



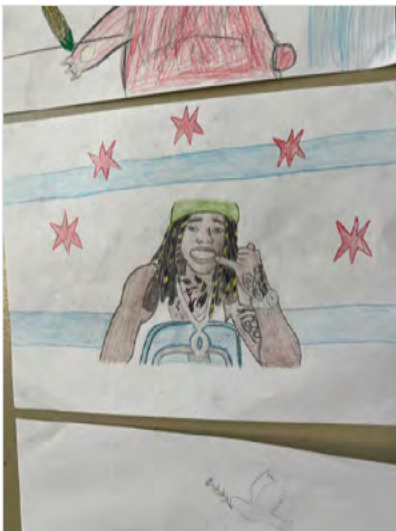
1838

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here for years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag shows the 5 red stars and on of chicagos most famous rappers



1839

Relationship to Illinois

While I was raised in Wisconsin, I "grew up" in Illinois in meaningful ways. I attended Northwestern University and spent my 20s in the great city of Chicago. I fell in love with the energy, opportunity and diversity of the city and suburbs. But most importantly, it was the friendly and open-hearted people of Illinois who welcomed me with open arms. Later, I worked for the Illinois-based CNH Industrial, where I witnessed the sacrifice and generosity of Illinois farmers, who feed the world.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I am submitting this on behalf of my son, [REDACTED], who lent his design talents to this content, knowing what Illinois means to me. The yellow represents Illinois' corn and soybean production, and its contribution to global agriculture. The white symbolizes the clouds that the Chicago skyscrapers reach into. The blue represents the great Lake Michigan which provides water for the Chicago suburbs. The red torch represents the rich history of Native Illinois art and storytelling.

1840

Relationship to Illinois

While I was raised in Wisconsin, I "grew up" in Illinois in meaningful ways. I attended Northwestern University and spent my 20s in the great city of Chicago. I fell in love with the energy, opportunity and diversity of the city and suburbs. But most importantly, it was the friendly and open-hearted people of Illinois who welcomed me with open arms. Later, I worked for the Illinois-based CNH Industrial, where I witnessed the sacrifice and generosity of Illinois farmers, who feed the world.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submitting for my son, [REDACTED], who designed this flag knowing Illinois' meaning to me. The green symbolizes Illinois' fertile plains along with the yellow of the harvested corn and soybeans. The blue represents Lake Michigan, which provides water to Chicago and its suburbs. The 21 stars represent Illinois as the 21st state and evoke the stars in the Chicago flag. The stars form a sunrise over the state, which evokes the summer and fall solstice celebrated by Illinois Native Americans.

1841

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and my grandparents came here from Greece in search of new opportunities and freedoms.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The first Yellow line on the flag represents Corn. Illinois is the 2nd highest producer of Corn and it's the state grain. The Green line represents Soybean as we are the highest producer. The blue line at the bottom represents the bodies of water that connect us to other states. The white background represents the hope for Illinois now and in the future. The red star represents those who unite and protect us, our military and first responders.



1842

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois and have been living here my whole life. My family immigrated to the United States and have been living in Illinois since 1896, which has been longer than Illinois has had an official flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Yellow - Crops and farmers of Illinois
Green - Being a past resident or a resident of Illinois
Purple - State's Flower Violet
Wavy Blue - The Great Lakes
White Stripe - Peace
Red 6 Pointed Stars - Chicago
State Seal - From the Original Illinois Flag



1843

Relationship to Illinois

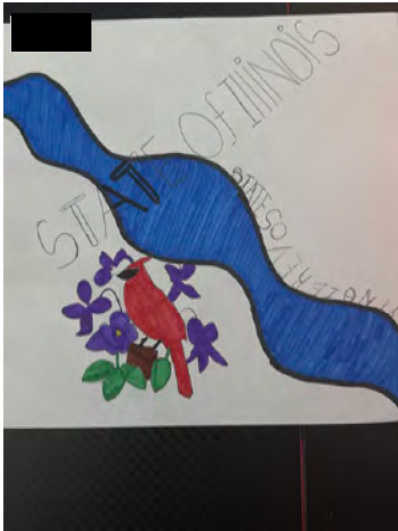
I was born here and my Grandparents came here from Greece for opportunities and freedom.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 4 blue stripes on the flag represent the 4 main bodies of water in Illinois (Wabash, Ohio, Mississippi, and Lake Michigan) the 10 red stars on the top and bottom add up to twenty to show the previous twenty states that came before us and the big white star in the middle represents our state, the 21st state of America. The red white and blue stands for the colors of our American flag and how we're all united.



1844



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago IL and some things I like about Illinois is that there are a lot more places to go 2 than Chicago. I like how Illinois host a lot of events like Chicago for an example at the united center they host all types of event from basketball games to concerts from your favorite artists and things like that. I lived in Chicago my whole life the only place I really know But I would like to live in other places when I'm old enough to do so by myself.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that I looked up different things that represent Illinois and took them and up them on a piece of paper like the Illinois state bird I put that, I put the Illinois state flower and I put the Mississippi River because it's a major river in our country and the color orange because Of the university of Illinois.

1845



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag symbolizes three things:1. Illinois is at the center of everything, represented by the outline of the state in the middle of the flag2. The 21 stars in the IL map outline stands for IL being the 21st state of the union3. The red, white and blue colors symbolize the society, demographics and the economy of Illinois which is a microcosm of the larger American society and economy

1846

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and my Grandparents came here from Greece for opportunities and freedom.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 4 blue stripes on the flag represent the 4 main bodies of water in Illinois (Wabash, Ohio, Mississippi, and Lake Michigan) the 10 red stars on the top and bottom add up to twenty to show the previous twenty states that came before us and the big white star in the middle represents our state, the 21st state of America. The red white and blue stands for the colors of our American flag and how we're all united.



1847

Relationship to Illinois

Hi, I'm Kayla, a proud resident of Illinois. I grew up in Vernon Hills until the age of 10 when my family moved to Grayslake. My husband and I moved back to Illinois after college and bought a house in Gurnee Illinois. I graduated from National Louis University with my M.A.T. in the spring of 2023 and I am certified to teach 5th-12th grade math in Illinois. I recently gave birth to my son [REDACTED] and we are happy we live in this state who cares about our rights and the education of our children.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The golden star and accompanying horizontal line is the embodiment of the sun rising over Lake Michigan and the sun setting over the Mississippi. The royal blue background represents the Illinois River connecting Lake Michigan and the Mississippi. The golden horizontal line also represents the agricultural bounty produced in our beautiful state. The six points of the star represent nature, agriculture, industry, transportation, unity, and diversity.



1848

Relationship to Illinois

Hi, I'm Kayla, a proud resident of Illinois. I grew up in Vernon Hills until the age of 10 when my family moved to Grayslake. My husband and I moved back to Illinois after college and bought a house in Gurnee Illinois. I graduated from National Louis University with my M.A.T. in the spring of 2023 and I am certified to teach 5th-12th grade math in Illinois. I recently gave birth to my son [REDACTED] and we are happy we live in this state who cares about our rights and the education of our children.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lake Michigan is represented as the top horizontal stripe and the Mississippi is represented by the bottom horizontal stripe. The orange horizontal stripe represents the agricultural bounty produced in our beautiful state. The twenty-one stars show that Illinois is the twenty-first state in the Union. The stars have six points representing nature, agriculture, industry, transportation, unity, and diversity. The central star symbolizes Illinois' urban communities.

1849

Relationship to Illinois

Hi, I'm Kayla, a proud resident of Illinois. I grew up in Vernon Hills until the age of 10 when my family moved to Grayslake. My husband and I moved back to Illinois after college and bought a house in Gurnee Illinois. I graduated from National Louis University with my M.A.T. in the spring of 2023 and I am certified to teach 5th-12th grade math in Illinois. I recently gave birth to my son [REDACTED] and we are happy we live in this state who cares about our rights and the education of our children.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lake Michigan is represented as the top horizontal stripe and the Mississippi is represented by the bottom horizontal stripe. These important bodies of water are joined by the diagonal stripe representing the Illinois River. These waterways form an italicized I representing Illinois and state roads that connect us all. The six-pointed star in the middle stands for nature, agriculture, industry, transportation, unity, and diversity.

1850

Relationship to Illinois

48-year Illinois resident. Current employee of State Treasurer's office. Lives in Oak Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is a modification of the Centennial flag, designed by Wallace Rice in 1918 to celebrate 100 years of Illinois statehood. Three horizontal bars representing a portion of the state (Northern, Central, Southern). The bottom bar is white ("peace"), with 10 stars (representing the 10 southern states in Union in 1818). The top bar is orange ("agriculture"), with 10 stars (representing the 10 northern states in the Union in 1818). The middle bar is blue ("justice") and holds a single larger star.

1851

Relationship to Illinois

I came to Illinois from Texas in early 2020 and have felt a strong welcoming spirit from the people of this great state. I moved here to work for the Illinois Supreme Court, and have felt strongly enough about the Prairie State to submit a design for the new state flag. I divide my time between Springfield and Chicago, but my position has allowed me to see much of Illinois, from Galena to Metropolis, and from Quincy to Danville. I may be an adopted Illinoisan, but this is home.



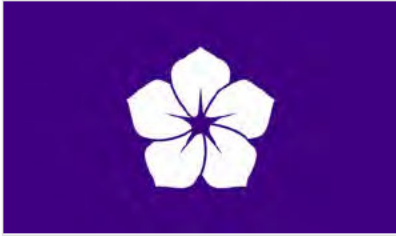
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue canton in the upper left contains the City of Springfield flag, representing our state capital and Illinois' place as the 21st state in the union. The white canton in the upper right contains the four red stars of the City of Chicago, our largest city. The lower three stripes of light blue, gold, and green recognize the abundant agriculture and water resources for which Illinois is known. The flag contains symbols of both the urban and agricultural heritage and future of Illinois.

1852

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a Serbian-born resident of Illinois and a first-generation immigrant. Over the past decade, I've lived in both urban and rural areas, gaining a deep appreciation for the state's diverse culture and landscapes. As a digital designer, I draw inspiration from Illinois' natural beauty, and as an avid outdoorsman, I particularly enjoy fishing in its lakes and rivers. The combination of Illinois' vibrant communities and stunning nature fuels both my passion for design and my love for the outdoors.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design emphasizes inclusivity and unity through the use of the violet, Illinois' state flower. The bold violet color stands for recognition of the state's history and values. The five-petaled flower's pistil is shaped as a five-pointed star, symbolizing unity, hope, and guidance for the future. Each petal signifies diversity, bringing together different communities to form a strong, unified whole, with the star at the center representing shared direction and strength.

1853

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag celebrates Illinois' statehood and geography. The 21 stars represent Illinois' place as the 21st state in the Union, symbolizing its historical importance. The green signifies the vast prairies that define state's landscape, while the dark blue represents Lake Michigan, highlighting Illinois' connection to one of the Great Lakes. The light blue stripe reflects the state's clear skies, emphasizing the open, expansive environment that stretches across both rural and urban Illinois.

1854

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a Serbian-born resident of Illinois and a first-generation immigrant. Over the past decade, I've lived in both urban and rural areas, gaining a deep appreciation for the state's diverse culture and landscapes. As a digital designer, I draw inspiration from Illinois' natural beauty, and as an avid outdoorsman, I particularly enjoy fishing in its lakes and rivers. The combination of Illinois' vibrant communities and stunning nature fuels both my passion for design and my love for the outdoors.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag highlights Illinois' rich geography and agricultural heritage. The yellow represents the state's prominence in the Corn Belt and the diversity of its agricultural production beyond just corn. The green symbolizes the vast prairies that characterize much of Illinois' landscape, while the dark blue stands for Lake Michigan, which plays a crucial role in the state's economy and culture. The simple, bold design reflects the state's agricultural strength and geographical features.



1855

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's minimalist design captures Illinois' diversity by merging its urban and agricultural landscapes. The blue and Chicago skyline symbolize stability, progress, innovation, and strong urban development, while the green represents Illinois' rich agricultural heritage. The state seal unites these elements, highlighting the equal importance of city life and farming to Illinois' identity. It's a balanced representation of the state's core strengths, urban and rural working in harmony.



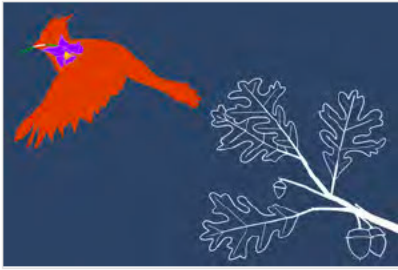
1856

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my primary place of residence. I was born and raised in Chicago for the entirety of my life. I am registered to vote, pay taxes, and I engage in other civic responsibilities within this state. Due to this, I would consider Illinois to be my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag attempts to blend nature, our state's rich heritage & our boundless potential. As a homage to the American flag, I use the same shades of red & blue for the colors. The cardinal, violet, & oak leaves found on my flag symbolize our state bird, flower, & tree. In addition, they celebrate the prairies & greenery that defines our landscape. The acorns found on the oak tree branch highlight the state's natural abundance, while the cardinal soaring upward represents our limitless potential.



1857

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here for 31 years, entirely in Cook County.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a state broken into pieces, but all the pieces fit together in some kind of harmony.



1858

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 31, got married here and have raised our child here. I lived in Chicago for 28 years and not 3 years in Morton Grove.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a grey unforgiving sky over blood soaked earth. Illinois is a hard state and not built on joy. We are like Wisconsin, but with out the booze. We are also like Indiana, but without the conservative hypocrisy. We are like Iowa but smart. The lines are long and flat like Illinois.



1859



Relationship to Illinois

I live with my family in Cook County. I have lived here for 31 years and plan to live here for the rest of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's corn. There's lots of Corn here and everybody likes corn

1860

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Springfield, IL my entire life. We pride ourselves of the ambiguous man who changed the course of American history, and would be nicknamed the soul of America. My father was born and raised in Illinois, his father the same* and so on until my four times great grandfather, a Prussian immigrant farmer named Jacob King, who immigrated to Murphysboro, IL. On Aug 26th, 1861* at the age of 20, he would volunteer in the 27th Illinois US Infantry, and fight to preserve our Union.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag submission has one star connected to a band of white. This star represents the State of Illinois, and the band represents the Union of these United States. The star is placed on the left side to signify the heart of a nation. Dark blue represents Lake Michigan. Light blue represents the Illinois River. Lastly, I have included a quote from A. Lincoln. I believe a reminder of the importance of democracy (in light of modern political polarization) would be unifying in the years to come.



1861

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Springfield, IL my entire life. We pride ourselves of the ambiguous man who changed the course of American history, and would be nicknamed the soul of America. My father was born and raised in Illinois, his father the same* and so on until my four times great grandfather, a Prussian immigrant farmer named Jacob King, who immigrated to Murphysboro, IL. On Aug 26th, 1861* at the age of 20, he would volunteer in the 27th Illinois US Infantry, and fight to preserve our Union.



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1862

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Springfield, IL my entire life. We pride ourselves of the ambiguous man who changed the course of American history, and would be nicknamed the soul of America. My father was born and raised in Illinois, his father the same* and so on until my four times great grandfather, a Prussian immigrant farmer named Jacob King, who immigrated to Murphysboro, IL. On Aug 26th, 1861* at the age of 20, he would volunteer in the 27th Illinois US Infantry, and fight to preserve our Union.



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1863

Relationship to Illinois

Hello Illinois, I am a native son of Illinois. I was born at St. Mary of Nazareth in Ukrainian Village, Chicago 60622. I attended CPS elementary school at Hiram H. Belding in Old Irving Park. I graduated from the School of Business at Northeastern Illinois University in 1998. I recently served as Foreperson on a Grand Jury for DuPage County, as I now reside in Bloomingdale for nearly a decade. I sketched this by hand on legal paper, as the thought came to mind, "Who is Illinois, today?" A Key.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"A Key to Our Nation" resembling a skeleton key. The centered emblem would depict "State Sovereignty, National Union" around the Chicago municipal device 'Y' As our nation's Railroad hub, train tracks lead from Chicago toward progress across Illinois, from Healthcare (Caduceus) to Architecture and Telecommunication Technology, represented by Willis Tower. A silhouette of Lincoln marks Springfield. '1818' near the Mississippi. Image would appear at center of standard rectangular flag (White/Blue)



1864

Relationship to Illinois

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1865

Relationship to Illinois

Hello Illinois, I am a native son of Illinois. I was born at St Mary Hospital in Ukrainian Village, Chicago 60622. I attended CPS elementary school at Hiram H. Belding in Old Irving Park. I graduated from business school at Northeastern Illinois University. I recently served as Foreperson on a Grand Jury in DuPage County, as I have resided in Bloomingdale for nearly a decade. I started with a silhouette of Lincoln, 1818 in Illinois. Sketching an idea, I thought, "Who is Illinois, today? A Key."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"A Key to Our Nation" resembles a skeleton key. "State Sovereignty, National Union" is around the municipal device 'Y' for 3 branches of the river system starting at Fort Dearborn. As our nation's Railroad hub, train tracks lead from Chicago toward progress across Illinois, to Healthcare (Caduceus) and Architecture Telecommunication Technology, represented by the Sears Tower. The Sky is the Limit for Illinois' most famous monolith. I connected the angel wing of Caduceus to better complete a key.



1866

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. I am currently a sixth grader in CPS.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the farmland and forests of our state. The blue represents our state's coastline along Lake Michigan. The star is a recognizable element from the Chicago flag.



1867

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. I am currently a sixth grader in CPS.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag retains our state seal but puts it against a blue background representing Lake Michigan that is on our eastern border. It also physically represents our western border via an outline of the state.





1868

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag celebrates the states natural beauty, with prairie grass depicted against a clear blue background symbolizing the abundant fresh water in our Great Lake, and mighty river. A single red star symbolizes the stalwart will of the people.



1869

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and I really like the Chicago Bears football team. GO BEARS!!!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It has the forests in southern Illinois, the Willis Tower, and a hat to represent President Lincoln.



1870

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. I am currently a sixth grader in CPS.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag uses green to represent our state's farmland and forests, and blue to represent Lake Michigan. The red star is a nod to the Chicago flag. The black is just there for aesthetics!



1871

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in ilinois I even go to school there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I thought of crops so i drew A pumpkin, vines, pees,corn, and fuzzy grass. and thats why i drew this.



1872

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I go to school here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I picked this design because, Illinois is the state of the largest grower of pumpkins.



1873

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Minooka, Illinois. So far, I am living in Seneca, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put a skyscraper to represent the cities. I drew a tree to represent our forest in southern Illinois. I made a blue ribbon to represent our rivers. I made a green ribbon to represent our fields and farming. I put 21 stars to represent our joining the United States,



1874

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made Abraham Lincoln and his house. I added a tree to represent the white oak which is the state tree. I made an airplane with Illinois we have one of the world's largest airports.



1875

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here in Seneca.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There is a star in the middle that is purple and there are lines that are green and blue and i love it.

1876



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The state flower is the violet and I thought to express my feelings and the color and how beautiful the Violet is.

1877

Relationship to Illinois

My mother was born in Illinois and she grew up there for most of her life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design is inspired off of the previous flag's sun design in the background, the flag also takes inspiration from the Haiti flag. It has the same blue and the same red on the top and the bottom, I put this in because the Haiti people have a lot of history with living in Chicago since the founder of the city, Jean Baptiste DuSable.

1878



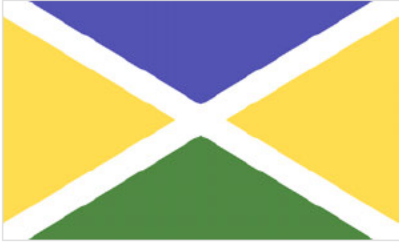
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1879



Relationship to Illinois

I am a long time Illinois Resident currently studying in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My second design. The Blue represents Lake Michigan, the White Cross represents the crossroads of the American Rail network (as well as the symbolism of the Illinois Confederation), the Yellow represents Industry and Agriculture, and the Green represents the Prairies that give the state its name

1880



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put an eagle because we have lots of eagle. I put a flag because of the USA. I put an rainbow letters because of how many people we have in Illinois and how different everyone is.

1881



Relationship to Illinois

We reside in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose a navy blue background because it represents the navy blue portion of the American flag. I chose the top hat to represent the 16th president Abraham Lincoln. I chose Abraham Lincoln because he lived in Illinois and he was an influential president. I also chose a top hat because Illinois is known as the Land of Lincoln.

1882



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose red white and blue because those are the original colors of the flag.

1883



Relationship to Illinois

I was born here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I reasoning behind my flag is that the bald eagle represents the national animal for America.

1884



Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is where my family is from and it is where I grew up. Because of this, it is a place I've become deeply connected to. No matter where I go in the world, Illinois remains a part of me and it is always the place I call home. The state's nature and vibrant communities I grew up experiencing are a source of inspiration in my art and design career, shaping my creativity and sense of identity. When ever asked, I say I am from Illinois with pride and gratitude, for it made me who I am today.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A flag to unify Illinois. The bottom half features 7 horizontal stripes: blue represents the 3 major rivers and 1 Great Lake that form much of the state's natural borders, and green for Illinois as the Prairie State, along with its 3 major geographical divisions: Northern, Central, and Southern. Centered on the top white half is a prominent, rising 21-point gold star. Each side of each point is angled precisely at 18 degrees. This unique star symbolizes Illinois becoming the 21st state in 1818.

1885

Relationship to Illinois

I initially moved here from Kansas in 2007, joined the Navy two years later and moved back upon leaving active duty in 2014 in order to go to graduate school at Roosevelt University in Chicago. I briefly lived in the Seattle area for work, but moved back to Chicago again when my job went remote. I consider Illinois to be my only real home despite adopting it as my home state. I have multiple versions of my design, but I believe a simple design is best.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eight point star represents Illinois as a hub both for the Great Lakes and for the U.S. in general. All roads lead to or through Illinois. The three stripes represent Northern Illinois, Southern Illinois and Greater Chicago. The blue stripes represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River with the white area representing the primary color of the original flag and also forming an "I" in the middle when opening up to the star putting a dot on top when the flag is flown vertically.



1886

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois high school teacher

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The mix between the cornfield and skyline shows the harmonic relationship between the rural and urban settings of Illinois. The seal set deep in the background shows how the government of Illinois looks over Illinois and everything within it. The founding year being in the corn field shows the agricultural background of our state.



1887

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois high school teacher

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The mix between the cornfield and skyline shows the harmonic relationship between the rural and urban settings of Illinois. The seal set deep in the background shows how the government of Illinois looks over Illinois and everything within it. The founding year being in the corn field shows the agricultural background of our state.



I really like to draw and I researched the cardinal in third grade and found out that it is the official bird of Illinois, and the willow tree is the state tree, the Monarch Butterfly is the state insect, and the Prairie is the state grass. I also added one of the state mottos...Illinois is the Prairie State.



1891

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I'm Christina Bartley & I'm 31 years old. I've been in IL my entire life. I live in Salem & spend a lot of time outdoors. I love visiting the Shawnee National Forest. There are so many beautiful places down south. No state is perfect, but I'm proud to live here wouldn't want to have grown up anywhere else. This state is so beautiful, the people are so nice and down-to-earth & people look out for each other here. I'm not the best at drawing, but here is my design.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-I love the idea of keeping the shield. It not only represents the first 13 states, but symbolizes protection & safety. I also want to keep the state motto, however I do wish to change the eagle to a white-tailed deer. It is the state animal & was chosen by school kids in 1980. I also like the No. Cardinal, which was also selected by kids in 1908. I love the idea of a design that has items chosen by kids. Cardinals have another meaning, "When a cardinal is near, an angel appears."



1892

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I'm Christina Bartley & I'm 31 years old. I've been in IL my entire life. I live in Salem & spend a lot of time outdoors. I love visiting the Shawnee National Forest. There are so many beautiful places down south. No state is perfect, but I'm proud to live here wouldn't want to have grown up anywhere else. This state is so beautiful, the people are so nice and down-to-earth & people look out for each other here. I'm not the best at drawing, but here is my design.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-If you wish to keep the eagle, I love the idea of it being in the shield. On the left the stripes will fade into the eagle. This design is more basic than #1, but to me the shield is a must to have. The motto could also be incorporated around the shield



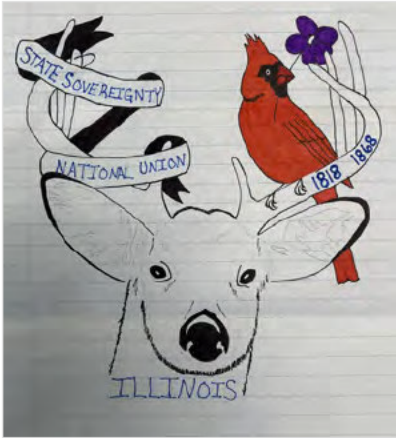
1893

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I'm Christina Bartley & I'm 31 years old. I've been in IL my entire life. I live in Salem & spend a lot of time outdoors. I love visiting the Shawnee National Forest. There are so many beautiful places down south. No state is perfect, but I'm proud to live here wouldn't want to have grown up anywhere else. This state is so beautiful, the people are so nice and down-to-earth & people look out for each other here. I'm not the best at drawing, but here is my design.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - If you want to do away with the shield, this is my suggestion. However, I believe #1 is great. It has the shield protecting our state, an eagle watching over us, and animals and a flower that kids chose. Thank you for your time and consideration.



1894

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life. I'm in 7th grade, living in the Chicago suburbs. I love so many things about our state. There are so many different places to go, and it's very diverse, from all the different people to all the types of nature across Illinois. I frequently go to Chicago and have also visited each corner of the state. I truly enjoy all the different parts of Illinois, and the history and beauty you can find throughout the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a combination of original and new design to highlight the great history of our state and some of my favorite state symbols. Using some of the previous art demonstrates our unique and proud history. The other state symbols I picked are some of my favorite things about Illinois. I think this mix of history and so much of the beauty of our state represents some of the many things that make me proud to be an Illinois artist.



1895



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose a cardinal as it is the state bird. The brown line represents the pollution Chicago struggled with in its early days. The 5 stars are the major cities in Illinois. The red stars represent the color of the cardinal.

1896



Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and have lived in Illinois my entire life. From the serene beauty of its rural landscapes to the bustling energy of its cities-I have experienced firsthand the diversity and unity that make Illinois special.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design unites Illinois' urban and rural heritage. It is inspired by the iconic Chicago flag, by incorporating the four red, six-pointed stars, symbolizing Chicago's history and its impact on the state. Yellow prairie grass represents our rich agricultural history as the "Prairie State". It is simpler than the current state flag yet still keeps the "Illinois" text at the bottom.

1897



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived and studied here for 9 years of my life. And go to Alcott College prep here in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag really captures the vibe of the area, with bold blue and green colors representing the Great Lakes and the farming history of the states. A beautiful sunset in the background adds to the scenery we have. The bald eagle and the badge with stars and stripes to represent Illinois pride in being part of the United States. Altogether, these features paint a clear picture of the area's beauty and cultural significance.

1898

Relationship to Illinois

I am submitting this design on behalf of my mom, Michelle, who came up with the idea. She has lived in Illinois for much of her life, primarily in rural areas, and feels a deep connection to the state's landscape and history. Her experiences in the countryside reflect the heart of Illinois, and she wanted to capture that in her flag design.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design features a dark blue background with yellow prairie grass in the center, symbolizing Illinois as the "Prairie State." The simplicity reflects the state's natural beauty, while the text "Illinois" at the bottom shows state pride. The prairie grass is a tribute to the rural roots of Illinois, where much of the state's history and identity are grounded.

1899

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud 3rd generation Illinoisan!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design takes elements from the original Illinois flag and re-imagines them with a clean, bold, and recognizable look, including the shield, land, water, and sun. The dark blue background was chosen to match the blue on the United States flag and provides a point of connection between state and country.



1900

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud 3rd generation Illinoisan!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design is inspired by the features of the state of Illinois. The blue on the left side represents the Mississippi River that defines the western border of our state, and the green represents the land. The white represents harmony between the different and diverse communities that live here. The gold star references the United States flag.



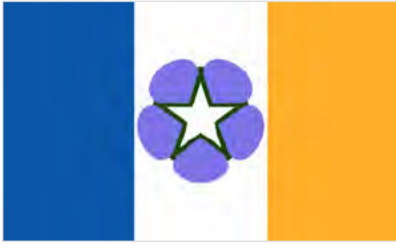
1901

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised on the north side of Chicago, lived here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

-Blue band represents the waterways that made Illinois an important trait for trade-
Yellow band represents fertile farmland and prairies, which give the state one of its
nicknames-Flower is a common blue violet, the state flower-Star in the center
represents statehood, as it's the same symbol that represents the state on the
national flag-5 petals of the flower represent the 5 main tribes that made up the
Illiniwek confederacy, from which the state gets its name



1902

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud 3rd generation Illinoisan!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design takes the sun element from the original Illinois flag and turns it into
the focal point. It represents the "dawn" of possibilities for residents of the state,
and is meant to inspire a sense of optimism, vitality, and joy. The blue background is
the same blue as the United States flag and provides a point of connection between
state and country, as well as referencing the major bodies of water that define the
state.



1903

Relationship to Illinois

█ is a 7th grade student at Lemay Middle School in West Chicago, Illinois. He is a
resident of West Chicago, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Why I made this..... The reason I made it like this is because mainly I knew our state
animal was the White tailed deer, and our state colors are red and white. I just
thought that these all just fall together really well.



1904

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life: from growing up in a northwest Chicago suburb, to attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, to now living in Chicago. Both of my parents and all of my grandparents have roots in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs, as Chicago was where my great-grandparents settled when immigrating from Europe.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Includes the outline of an eagle, comprised of the Cahokia mounds in the bottom half with 18 steps for the founding year of 1818 and a subtle outline of the Willis Tower as the head. One large star for statehood in the Union and three 7-point stars for the 21st state and the 3 main regions of the state (N,C,S). Gold represents the rich agriculture, blue represents the waterways of the state. Three blue stripes: Mississippi, Wabash, Ohio Rivers that form borders; blue upper half Lake Michigan.

1905

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in the state my entire life. I attended the state's flagship public university and used the education received there to build a career in one of the most challenging state government agencies in Illinois. While I have no uniform, I do elect to work with the Illinois State Flag on my jacket daily and plan to continue doing so with any selection made by this committee. I hope the selected design appropriately illustrates the state's diversity and history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design represents the urban and rural portions of Illinois with vertical lines resembling skyscrapers as well as horizontal lines for the sprawling agricultural fields. The charge in the upper left combines three specific symbols: the Wallace Rice star of Chicago, the abstract art of the Illiniwek, and Lincoln gazing toward the fly. One of two color combinations being submitted, this entry uses the simple but familiar colors of the Illinois Centennial Flag also designed by Rice.

1906

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in the state my entire life. I attended the state's flagship public university and used the education received there to build a career in one of the most challenging state government agencies in Illinois. While I have no uniform, I do elect to work with the Illinois State Flag on my jacket daily and plan to continue doing so with any selection made by this committee. I hope the selected design appropriately illustrates the state's diversity and history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design represents the urban and rural portions of Illinois with vertical lines resembling skyscrapers as well as horizontal lines for the sprawling agricultural fields. The charge in the upper left combines three specific symbols: the Wallace Rice star of Chicago, the abstract art of the Illiniwek, and Lincoln gazing toward the fly. One of two color combinations being submitted, this entry uses the familiar UIUC colors and attempts to enshrine their significance for all of Illinois.



1907

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state of Illinois for thirty-five out of my [REDACTED] years. Although I was not born in the state, I consider it my home. The Naperville and Aurora communities shaped my formative years, and Chicago shaped my collegiate and professional career. I now reside in Wheaton, where I am hoping to launch a small business, a marketing consulting firm.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cardinal, our state bird, represents our capital, Springfield. The four blue violet flowers represent the four largest cities. There are approximately 102 buds on the six stalks of wheat. These buds represent the 102 counties that make up our state. The red and blue ribbon represents state unity and heritage in the reuse of the words "State Sovereignty, National Union". The green grass and water represent our agriculture, natural resources, rivers and lakes.



1908

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been home to me for the better part of my existence. Arriving from the Philippines at the tender age of six, my parents and I began our journey into American citizenship on Addison Street, about a half mile west of historic Wrigley Field. As my life unfolded, my path took a turn to the southwest Suburbs of Bolingbrook. While no longer a Chicagoan, I was still more importantly, a proud citizen of Illinois. For your consideration, I'm excited to share with you the 1st of 3 concepts.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a minimalistic concept in an effort to simplify our flag and make it more identifiable. Patriotic colors of red, white, and blue have been implemented. There is a larger field of blue with 20 stars that surround a larger center star which represents Illinois as the 21st state admitted to the union. The bottom section is a shorter base of red with ILLINOIS within its frame.

1909

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been home to me for the better part of my existence. Arriving from the Philippines at the tender age of six, my parents and I began our journey into American citizenship on Addison Street, about a half mile west of historic Wrigley Field. As my life unfolded, my path took a turn to the southwest Suburbs of Bolingbrook. While no longer a Chicagoan, I was still more importantly, a proud citizen of Illinois. For your consideration, I'm excited to share with you the 2nd of 3 concepts.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a minimalistic concept in an effort to honor the history of how Illinois received its name. While at first glance, the concept appears to be simple pennants and a star within a dark blue field, the hidden meaning is that the largest pennant is actually an arrowhead to honor the Native Americans that resided these lands before. The arrowhead moves from left to right to represent Illinois' forward progression into the future.

1910

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been home to me for the better part of my existence. Arriving from the Philippines at the tender age of six, my parents and I began our journey into American citizenship on Addison Street, about a half mile west of historic Wrigley Field. As my life unfolded, my path took a turn to the southwest Suburbs of Bolingbrook. While no longer a Chicagoan, I was still more importantly, a proud citizen of Illinois. For your consideration, I'm excited to share with you the 3rd of 3 concepts.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Once again, this is a minimalistic concept in an effort to honor our Native Americans. There is a star in the center that is created through negative space. While the star represents our fine state, its history holds a much stronger importance. From my research, I have discovered, that Illinois' name was derived from the Illinois Confederacy which was a group of 12-13 tribes. However there were 5 main tribes. The star is created by 5 chevrons representing the tribes converging toward the center.

1911

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state of Illinois for thirty-five out of my [REDACTED] years. Although I was not born in the state, I consider it my home. The Naperville and Aurora communities shaped my formative years, and Chicago shaped my collegiate and professional career. I now reside in Wheaton, where I am hoping to launch a small business, a marketing consulting firm.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Karen Ehrisman Flag Design 1, Submission 2: The cardinal, our state bird, represents our capital, Springfield. The four blue violet flowers represent the four largest cities. There are approximately 102 buds on the six stalks of wheat. These buds represent the 102 counties that make up our state. The red and blue ribbon represents state unity and heritage in the reuse of the words "State Sovereignty, National Union". The green grass and water represent our agriculture, natural resources, rivers

1912

Relationship to Illinois

I am the 6th generation of Eggenbergers to live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The state's founding year of 1818 is displayed at the top. Illinois is written in cursive at the bottom. The Monarch Butterfly, Illinois' state insect, is in the center, with its bold colors and beautiful pattern. There is a flowering milkweeds plant, Illinois' state wildflower, on either side of the butterfly.



1913

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller- Submitted by parents on behalf of [REDACTED] My name is [REDACTED] I am eleven years old and live in Alton, Illinois. I was born in Illinois and so was my family. Most of the friends I know come from Illinois. I like living in Illinois and learning about the local legend of the Piasa Bird and about indigenous people like the Sac and Fox tribes.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller- My flag submission includes three features that are significant to our state. The tree in the center of the flag is a White Oak tree, our state tree. Our state bird, the Northern Cardinal, is on one of the tree branches. The plants at the base of the oak are a Milkweed and a Violet, our state wildflower and flower.



1914

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag tells about Illinois. I put towers because it is in Chicago's city. I put the s state bird. I put 2 stars to tell about America's flag. I put 21 because Illinois is the 21st state and 1818 because it is when Illinois was founded. Pick my flag because it tells about what Illinois is like.





1915

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I did the state tree and the state bird. It is not a complicated flag, it is easy. So that is why i think i should be picked.



1916

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose this flag because the grass represents the farm land the rainbow represents the reflection off of Lake Michigan there are important land marks on the grass like Chicago.to the sides of the rainbow are the flag meant to have 25 stars on each side and 7 strips on the right and 6 on the left. A cardinal the state bird and the 1818 and 2025 are for when the flag started and changed.



1917

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cardinal on the flag represents the official symbol of Illinois. The green on the flag represents all the grass and prairie in Illinois. The Sears tower represents a famous landmark in Illinois. The color inside of the shape of Illinois represents how Illinois is one of the fifty states in our great nation. The 1818 and 2024 on the flag represent the year Illinois became a state and the year the flag was made. The eagle represents how even though the flag is changed it still has similarities



1918

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put a cardinal on my flag because it is one of the state birds. I put the "map" of Illinois to symbolize that we stand together. I put the peace sign to symbolize the peace we have. I also put 1818 and 2025 because 1818 is when Illinois was founded and 2025 because it is when the flag was made. I added the sword and shield for our army. The eagle for independence.



1919

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag will be better than the other flag because it has the Springfield flag and the Chicago flag. It also has the Illinois state outline with the state flower the violet. It also has the cardinal the state bird and the state coin. I think my flag should win for all those reasons. Thank you for reading my Illinois flag I hope you have a good day.



1920

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the Ojibwa tribe logo to represent the first people here. It also has a 21 on it because Illinois is the 21st state. It has a sun to represent light and love. It also has a peace sign for peace in the world around us. It says community so people remember to be kind to their community. It has an American flag for our country. Why I think it should be picked is because it is a symbol for kindness and I think it is a great flag to use to remember the past of our land.

1921



Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

You should vote for my flag because it perfectly represents the state of Illinois. First of all you have a cardinal (the Illinois state bird) standing on a rock that says 21st state and 1818. Behind the cardinal you have Lake Michigan and behind that you have the Willis Tower.(the tallest building in Illinois. And then you have four rivers: Wabash, Mississippi, Illinois and Ohio. That's why you should vote for my flag!

1922



Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put the cardinal I put on the flag because it's the state bird. The monarch I put on the flag because it's the state butterfly. I put the deer on the flag because it's the state animal. I put the grass on the flag because of all of the prairie land and prairie grass. I put the violets on the flag because they are the state flower. The sun is because in the morning the sun comes out. I think my flag should be chosen because there are not too many things on it and it's all related to Illinois

1923



Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents some of the traits of the old state flag. It has an eagle for the US. And It has the original shield. And lastly, it has the colors red white and blue.

1924

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a star to represent the USA so I put red, white and blue. I put a monarch butterfly because it's a state symbol. I put a violet flower on this flag because it's the state flower and you can see it around Illinois. I put a cardinal. It's a state bird and it is well known it's like the last flag of an Eagle. A peace symbol because we have peace in Illinois. I put some grass to represent the farm land. I put the shape of Illinois to show this is Illinois and if people don't know.



1925

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think this is a great flag because it has lots of Illinois state symbols. It has the tallest tower in Illinois the Willis Tower. The flag has the border of Illinois. And it has the judicial, executive, and legislative branches.



1926

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lake Michigan is a big part of Illinois because it is named lake (Michigan) but a lot of it is in Illinois! I put Springfield because it is the capital of Illinois! you have to add it! In the background there is a lot of grass in Illinois and a lot of farming! Illinois is in the United states so you always have to add that! Next the peace sign, you have to be peaceful in Illinois. I put the 21 state because Illinois was the 21 state. The tree has oxygen and the date Illinois became a state.



1927



Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lake Michigan is a big part of Illinois because it is named lake (Michigan) but a lot of it is in Illinois! I put Springfield because it is the capital of Illinois! There is a lot of grass in Illinois and a lot of farming! Illinois is in the United states so you always have to add that! You have to be peaceful in Illinois. I put trees for oxygen. I put 21 because Illinois is the 21st state, and the year it became a state.

1928



Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think my flag is going to make the top 10 and here's why I think it. is really good because it is really colorful. And has a lot of cool drawings. And that's why my flag is going to make top 10.

1929



Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think my flag should be chosen because there's a 21 hidden somewhere because Illinois is the 21st state to become a state where I have a sun for light and love. I also have flowers and food in the picture because Illinois is most famous for their farmland. I also have the years 1818-1868 on a tree branch for when Illinois was found and when it became a state. I have Lake Michigan for water and a ribbon that has 50 stars for 50 states. Last but not least I have a cardinal because its Illinois.

1930



Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag should be chosen because it represents Illinois. It has a USA flag because Illinois is in the USA. Abraham Lincoln has a bald eagle because a bald eagle is the symbol for the USA. There is a hog because a hog is one of the state animals. There is a farm representing the farm land and there is a sign on the farm saying since 1818 because Illinois was a state in 1818.

1931



Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My redesign of the Illinois flag represents Illinois because in the middle there is Illinois with some of the American flag and an eagle on it. In the background there is a river representing the Mississippi River. And on top you can see twenty one stars because Illinois is the twenty first state and one star is big for Illinois itself!

1932



Relationship to Illinois

Being raised in a rural town which after decades has grown into a city, I've found myself enveloped within the Chicago area. Working along side the defining city which sets the skyline surrounding areas wish to also become a part of. Most of my upbringing came from blue collar work in a multitude of fields. Whether that be working in home improvement to later developing software for custom hardware projects. Illinois has been there leading the way with opportunity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripes represent the state's northern and southern regions. A new Dearborn Star represents the six leading industries of Illinois, finance, advertising, insurance, manufacturing, banking, bio tech, and agriculture. The five stars representing a solid, long-lasting relationships between state citizens. The laurel wreath represents the collective union of the varied backgrounds of IL residents.

1933

Relationship to Illinois

Being raised in a rural town which after decades has grown into a city, I've found myself enveloped within the Chicago area. Working along side the defining city which sets the skyline surrounding areas wish to also become a part of. Most of my upbringing came from blue collar work in a multitude of fields. Whether that be working in home improvement to later developing software for custom hardware projects. Illinois has been there leading the way with opportunity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripes represent the state's northern and southern regions. A new Dearborn Star represents the six leading industries of Illinois, finance, advertising, insurance, manufacturing, banking, bio tech, and agriculture. The five stars representing a solid, long-lasting relationships between state citizens. The laurel wreath represents the collective union of the varied backgrounds of IL residents.



1934

Relationship to Illinois

Being raised in a rural town which after decades has grown into a city, I've found myself enveloped within the Chicago area. Working along side the defining city which sets the skyline surrounding areas wish to also become a part of. Most of my upbringing came from blue collar work in a multitude of fields. Whether that be working in home improvement to later developing software for custom hardware projects. Illinois has been there leading the way with opportunity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

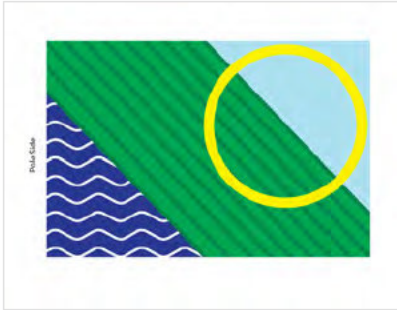
The blue stripes represent the state's northern and southern regions. A new Dearborn Star represents the six leading industries of Illinois, finance, advertising, insurance, manufacturing, banking, bio tech, and agriculture. The five stars representing a solid, long-lasting relationships between state citizens. The laurel wreath represents the collective union of the varied backgrounds of IL residents.



1935

Relationship to Illinois

C. Eugene Elliott was born in Avon, Illinois, raised and schooled in Galesburg and graduated from Galesburg Senior High School. He received a BA in Architecture from the University of Illinois. He was licensed and practiced architecture from Rockford, IL where he is now retired.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue. is for Mississippi, Wabash & Ohio Rivers and Lake Michigan that form the borders of IL. Green is for Farmlands producing soybeans and corn ranks #1 & 2 in exports nationally. Light Blue is for sky as in Skyscrapers, first in the world built in Chicago 1885. Yellow ring is for Ferris Wheel invented by Geo. Ferris in Galesburg, IL. The First Ferris Wheel in the World appeared at the World Expo in Chicago 1893. Yellow brings FUN & JOY to the flag.

1936

Relationship to Illinois

Second submission. Same answers as the first entry. I have lived in Illinois since I moved here from Kansas after college in 2007, except for my active duty time in the Navy and two years in the Seattle area for work. I always move back to Illinois because this is my home. I currently live in Irving Park, Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Second submission. The eight-pointed star represents Illinois as the crossroads and hub of America. The three stripes represent Northern Illinois, Southern Illinois and Greater Chicago. The two blue stripes represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, the green stripe represents wide open prairie. The green stripe and the green star form an "I" (for Illinois) when the flag is hung vertically. The design is similar to my other entry, but colors can be changed as needed.



1937

Relationship to Illinois

Grew up in Chicago, lived in Illinois most of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White Tailed Monarch Winged Cardinal eats corn amid milk weed and violets with an eastern tiger salamander and a chunk of fluorite colored crystal.



1938

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 65 year old farmer in Woodford County married to an art teacher. We met at the University of Illinois and sent our three children there. Illinois is a wonderful state and we need a better flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Dark gray represents Drummer, the state soil type. Dark green represents a prairie in spring since we are the Prairie state. Alabaster represents the great cities of Illinois and their beautiful architecture. The bison medallion is a stylized version of the art Deco bison on the Chicago Board of Trade. The CBOT is one of the most beautiful buildings. It represents the world class beauty of Chicago and the power of Illinois agriculture.



1939

Relationship to Illinois

I am in 7th grade and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I live in south suburban Cook County and my family also has another home in southern Illinois, south of Effingham County.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design I created includes a cardinal, an oak tree branch, blue violets, and milkweed. I chose all of these for my design because the cardinal is Illinois' state bird, the oak tree is our state tree, the blue violets are the state flower, and the milkweed are the state's wildflower. This design represented the beauty of Illinois' nature.

1940

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois over a decade ago to pursue a design career and have called it home ever since. There is a sense of creativity and taste here I've never experienced anywhere else and I'm proud to be an Illinoisan.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag depicts a wildflower to represent the natural beauty of Illinois as the Prairie State. The flower is made up of twenty petals with a single star in the middle, representing Illinois's admission into the union as the twenty-first state. It's a symbol of our state's motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union". When united together we create something important and beautiful, yet our individual history, culture, and values still shine.

1941

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I don't plan to move and consider Illinois to be the best Midwest state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue on the left symbolizes the Mississippi River, and the light blue on the right symbolizes Lake Michigan. The organic border of the Mississippi gives our great state its unique shape and is instantly recognizable. The twenty-one stars are to symbolize Illinois' status as the twenty-first state of America. The light blue is taken from the Chicago flag, and the dark blue from the Illinois Centennial flag/Bicentennial logo.

1942

Relationship to Illinois

I have left Illinois maybe 20 times in my lifetime. Born, Raised, Educated in this state. One of my greater fears is needing to leave the state to find work.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White field with a diagonal blue stripe with orange border and a red six-pointed star in the top left. White field for its purity, for its simplicity. The blue stripe is for the Illinois river and its canal systems. Moving goods from the top right of the state in Chicago down to the bottom(ish) right by Grafton. The orange border along the stripe for the industry and farming along the river. Also a unique color to help make the flag distinct. The red star in the top for the individual person.



1943

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I am a graduate of Illinois State University. I have taught in Illinois public schools for 24 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Old Glory Blue (U.S. Flag)-Represents Illinois' lakes, rivers, Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river. The Red star represents our state capital and Springfield's leadership. The upper and lower blue triangles represent the northern and southern regions of the state coming together in Springfield. 21 stars-represent Illinois being the 21st state of the Union. The two white triangles represent the purity of states rights within our United States.



1944

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and my family has been here for over 100 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue on the left symbolizes the Mississippi River. The organic border of the Mississippi gives our great state its unique shape and is instantly recognizable. The twenty-one stars are to symbolize Illinois' status as the twenty-first state of America. The light blue is taken from the Chicago flag, and the dark blue from the Illinois Centennial flag/Bicentennial logo.



1945

Relationship to Illinois

Resident all my life here (except for college in Iowa). Lived in the Chicago suburbs and have a deep appreciation for all that Illinois provides and represents.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue lines represent the river-boundaries that define IL -- the Mississippi and Ohio/Wabash River. The gold streak in the center represents our agriculture. The blue circle is a representation of lake Michigan and the importance it holds. The 21 stars in reference to us being the 21st state of the USA. And finally, the silver chevron represents our industry (centered around lake Michigan), and the silver band represents the hope our state brings to all who come -- a literal silver lining



1946

Relationship to Illinois

Resident here all my life (except for college in Iowa). Grew up in the Chicagoland suburbs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue lines represent the river-boundaries that define IL -- the Mississippi and Ohio/Wabash River. The silver streak in the center represents our industry. The blue circle is a representation of lake Michigan and the importance it holds. The 21 stars in reference to us being the 21st state of the USA. And finally, the gold chevron represents our agriculture, and the gold band represents the hope our state brings to all who come.



1947

Relationship to Illinois

Been a resident of IL all my life (except for college in Iowa). Grew up in the suburbs of Chicagoland.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue lines represent the river-boundaries that define IL -- the Mississippi and Ohio/Wabash River. The white streak in the center represents our industry. The blue circle is a representation of lake Michigan and the importance it holds. The 21 stars in reference to us being the 21st state of the USA. And finally, the gold ellipsoid represents our agriculture, and the gold band represents the hope our state brings to all who come.



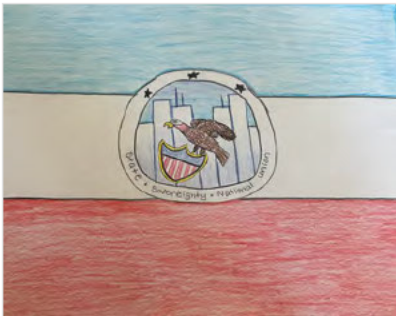
1948

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Chicago Public Schools student participating the the Illinois flag contest. I have been a citizen of Illinois for my whole life and I have taken advantage of the states amazing resources and features.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design combines traditional state symbolism with a contemporary layout. The use of the state seal connects it to the Illinois history, while the stripes and vibrant colors give it a modern twist. The 3 stars added to the top of the seal represent a key aspect of Illinois' history, like it's statue and the 21st state and it contributions to the country. The skyscrapers and buildings in the background in the state seal is a modern approach to change the seal.



1949

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Joliet for the first 21 years of my life, then after spending some time out of Illinois I came back to my home state last year currently live in southwestern Cook county.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The large blue space at the top is to represent Lake Michigan, the 21 stars in that spot are to represent that Illinois was the 21st state to join the union, the green stripes represent the prairies of Illinois, the smaller blue stripes the rivers and canals, the cardinal featured as the Illinois State bird, wheat as it's a common crop in Illinois, the red stars to represent the month and day Illinois became a state - December 3rd, and white stars on the smaller blue stripes for the year -1818.



1950

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of the state. I was born here and have lived here all my life. I work as a teacher in Oak Lawn.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My students' explanation: The bean is included because it is the longest lasting, largest art masterpieces in the world. The prairie is included because one of the nicknames for Illinois is the "Prairie State." Driving through the state for hours getting back to Oak Lawn, the students said that they stayed off their phones, tablets, and did not try to sleep because they were taken in by the vastness of the prairie. The white oak is a symbol of Illinois and state tree.



1951

Relationship to Illinois

I've been in Illinois for my whole life since I was little

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Its the original flag but it has more detail and more added to the flag like the state flower (violet) and other things to make it brighter in colors, add details, and make it less boring



1952

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here my whole life since I was a little kid

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind this flag is to show the state deer and other details that are known for in Illinois like the state bird (cardinal) and others to change up the original flag and give it something new



1953

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life since I was little

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag shows the state bird on the state tree and the meaning behind this flag is to express other things that are known for being in Illinois like the state bird and try something new and something out of the box and also something out of the circle on the original flag to get it detail and something to look at. Other details like the state flower and insect are also on the flag to get more meaning and color to the empty spots on the flag



1954

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life since I was little

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag shows the state bird on the state tree and the meaning behind this flag is to express other things that are known for being in Illinois like the state bird and try something new and something out of the box and also something out of the circle on the original flag to get it detail and something to look at. Other details like the state flower and insect are also on the flag to get more meaning and color to the empty spots on the flag





1955

Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background is dark blue because Lake Michigan and the 20 white stars represent the number of states in the union before Illinois was admitted. the red star represents Springfield as the capital of Illinois.



1956

Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a Cardinal silhouette with a top hat for the state bird and Lincoln. The green and yellow for state grain: corn, state vegetable: sweet corn, and state snack: popcorn. My flag also has the state motto: Land of Lincoln.



1957

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life. I'm in 7th grade, from south suburban Cook County.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design includes a monarch butterfly, big blue stem prairie grass, eastern tiger salamander, and a bluegill which are all symbols of our state. I created this design because it represents the great wildlife found in Illinois!

1958



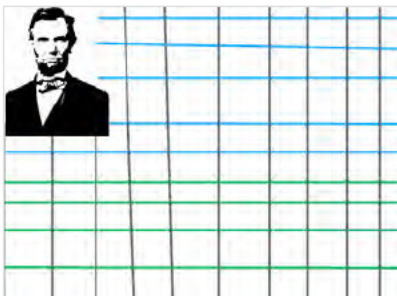
Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background represents Justice and Perseverance. The two Squiggly lines on the flag represent the two national rivers, these two rivers are called The Chicago River and Lake Michigan. The Bird on the flag is a Cardinal which is our state's bird.

1959



Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Abraham Lincoln represents where he was born and that is a big achievement for the state of Illinois. Blue represents the Chicago river and the Lake Michigan. Green represents the crops that are often grown in Illinois. Grey represents the railroads since we have a plethora of railroads that carry goods for the state and all across the country.

1960



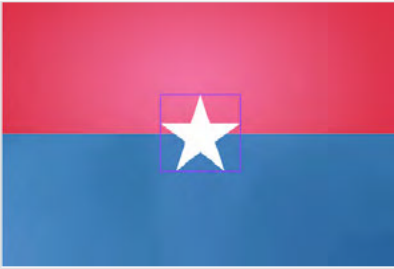
Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The six point star is the Chicago star. Next, the wheel is supposed to represent, and look like, a Ferris wheel, representing Illinois as a state of innovation. Next, the colors. Blue represents the bodies of water around us. The big blue box on the left is to portray Lake Michigan. The smaller wave is to represent all the rivers we have around us. The green represents agriculture.

1961



Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the blue represents water or freedom, the red stripe represents our strength and lastly the white star represents peace and unity in our country.

1962



Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has an eagle that represents the US bird. It includes Abraham Lincoln who was one of the famous Illinois people. Also, my flag has the outline of Illinois and the blue represents the lake. The six point star represents the significance of Chicago, it is blue because of the Chicago river. Lastly, the green background represents growth and agriculture

1963



Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a red 6-pointed star to represent the the flag of Chicago. The blue line represents the Mississippi and Chicago rivers. The Green represents all of the crops and farmland that Illinois has. The blue at the bottom represents lake Michigan.

1964



Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a red 6-pointed star to represent the the flag of Chicago. The blue line represents the Mississippi and Chicago rivers. The Green represents all of the crops and farmland that Illinois has. The blue at the bottom represents lake Michigan.

1965



Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents Illinois in many ways. It has the chicago star and a circle in white to represent our unity and accomplishments. The circle also represents the Ferris Wheel in Navy Pier which is one of the most famous. Blue symbolizes freedom and the bodies of water. The green symbolizes the agriculture and nature of Illinois.

1966



Relationship to Illinois

I live and go to school in Evanston, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue wave at the top is for the clear blue skies of Illinois. Then the black band is for the skyscrapers and cities in Illinois. The yellow band symbolizes the abundance of corn that our state is known for. The green stands for the rolling meadows of the prairie state and the soybean crop. Finally, the blue on the bottom is for the beautiful waterways in our state, the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The six pointed star is a nod to Chicago and for the 6th largest state by pop.

1967



Relationship to Illinois

I live and go to school in Evanston, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents waterways such as lake Michigan. The green is for the vast amount of soybeans that Illinois has. The 21 pointed star represents that Illinois was the 21st state into the union it also is the sun rising to show that new opportunities are to come.

1968



Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flags green represents how much plants, grass, and stuff related to nature that Illinois is, we are known for most farmland within our state radius even though we are a smaller state. The white represents our unity, and the 6 point star represents Chicago, and Springfield, our capital. Land of Lincoln implies we accept him and he is the one who made this land how it is today and shows he was born here.

1969



Relationship to Illinois

Resident and Teacher-submitted on behalf of student at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The grey represents Chicago buildings. The yellow represents the sun. The blue represents Lake Michigan.

New Illinois State Flag Design - Forward



Illinois became America's 21st state. This flag embodies 21 stars to reflect its place in American history with a field of blue for its great water resources and green for its land that produces food for the state, the country and the world.

Look in downtown Chicago and believe in the spirit of the state.



1970

Relationship to Illinois

I work in downtown Chicago and believe in the spirit of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Forward - Illinois became America's 21st state. This flag embodies 21 stars to reflect its place in American history with a field of blue for its great water resources and green for its land that produces food for the state, the country and the world.

1971

Relationship to Illinois

I work in downtown Chicago and believe in the spirit of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

United-Illinois became America's 21st state. This flag embodies 21 stars to reflect its place in American history with a field of blue for its great water resources, yellow for its bright future and green for its land that produces food for the state, country and world.

New Illinois State Flag Design - United



Illinois became America's 21st state. This flag embodies 21 stars to reflect its place in American history with a field of blue for its great water resources, yellow for its bright future and green for its land that produces food for the state, country and world.

Look in downtown Chicago and believe in the spirit of the state.



1972

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois, I was born in Illinois, I've also lived there my entire life (as of now)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put the Chicago flower (Chrysanthemum) to represent Chicago, Illinois, and I put the American eagle which represents the pride and strength that we have in our city and state, and I did baby blue and white which are colors I sort of got from the Chicago flag but different :)



1973

Relationship to Illinois

I work in downtown Chicago and believe in the spirit of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

All American-Illinois became America's 21st state. This flag embodies 21 stars to reflect it's place in American history and includes 1818, the year Illinois was admitted to the union. The other fields of red and blue, embody the American patriotic color palette coalescing a true American story.



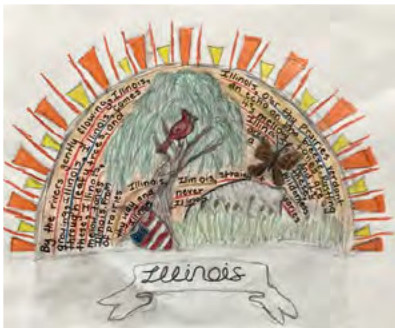
1974

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when I was an infant. Illinois has been my home for 9 years. I live in an amazing community in Illinois and cannot imagine living anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I really like to draw and I researched the cardinal in third grade and found out that it is the official bird of Illinois, and the willow tree is the state tree, the Monarch Butterfly is the state insect, and the Prairie is the state grass. I also added one of the state mottos...Illinois is the Prairie State.



1975

Relationship to Illinois

I was born In Chicago and Illinois always has a special place in my heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a simpler design of the state seal with a light blue background that I think represents the state well.



1976

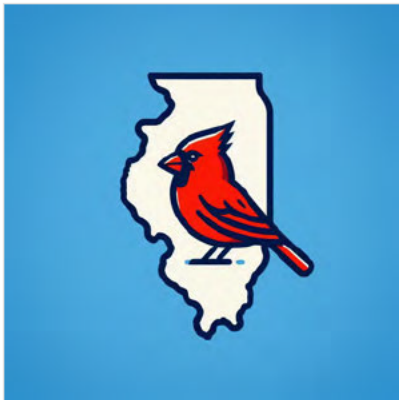


Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised

Explain the meaning behind your flag

star points all added up equals 21, which signifies us being 21st state. additionally, top right signifies chicago, and three other stars represent north, central and southern IL. the blue squares represent lake michigan and the Mississippi river. the red and blue colors are same as current flag.



1977

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and the state of Illinois always has a special place in my heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a simple design of a Northern cardinal the state bird with the states outline in the background.

1978

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 15 years in the city of Chicago. I come from a third generation immigration from my dads side my grandpa was German while my moms side has live in the us for their whole life, but I've been schooled here and all that but I would call Illinois home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are four colors to this flag because it represents what Illinois stand for with white standing for peace, purity, and innocence. Red stands for the courage, and hardness for the future that is ahead and that we will get through it. Blue stands for the freedoms we have and vigilance for the state. Black stands for the determination we have as the people of Illinois and the ethnic heritage that we all share today. And last but not least is yellow and it stands for the justice that we hold to

1979

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 15 years in the city of Chicago. I come from a third generation immigration from my dad's side my grandpa was German while my mom's side has lived in the US for their whole life, but I've been schooled here and all that but I would call Illinois home.



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1980

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for all my life. I live in the area named Eureka. My parents are both immigrants, my dad is from Mexico Michacan my mom is from Puerto Rico. I think that my mom was born in Puerto Rico but raised for a couple years but then moved back to Puerto Rico and then came back again and she then attended high school here and has lived the rest of her life in Illinois. My Dad lived his whole fifteen years of his life in Mexico with his grandam because his mom and dad went to Illinois and then



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my flag I used blue to represent the justice that Illinois has. I put yellow to represent the generosity of Illinois. I added red to represent the strength that Illinois has. I have added green to show hope that Illinois has for its people. The message behind this flag is to show others how strong Illinois is.

1981

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a lifelong citizen of Illinois and am a proud Chicagolander. I have gotten involved with various campaigns and initiatives in my community and am a teacher in the norther suburbs of Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The base colors are Light Blue to mock our skies and represent Lake Michigan in the north, Pumpkin Orange to represent our state's farms, especially for pumpkins (top grower in the US), & for Shawnee National Forest + Garden of the Gods in the south; and White from our original flag. Navy is used on the left side to represent the Mississippi River. The stars are for Chicago in the NE and for East. St Louis in the SW (off their city flags). The Eagle & Shield is for our original flag in US colors

1982

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I was born in Evanston and lived there for the first few years of my life. Once I was around 3 my family moved to Chicago. I went to a private school from kindergarten to 8th grade now i'm in a public high school. I have only once traveled down south of Illinois, it was a great experience.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

On my flag there is a bald eagle caring an american flag flying over lots of corn. My flag uses many colors but the green from the corn does pop out at you. The corn is significant to Illinois because in Illinois there is quite a lot of corn. The bald eagle and American flag shows the patriotism of Illinois. This flags intended message is to show that Illinois citizens are patriots and the future of Illinois is bright.

1983

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a lifelong citizen of Illinois and am a proud Chicagolander. I have gotten involved with various campaigns and initiatives in my community and am a teacher in the norther suburbs of Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The base colors are Light Blue to mock our skies and represent Lake Michigan in the north, Pumpkin Orange to represent our state's farms, especially for pumpkins (top grower in the US), & for Shawnee National Forest + Garden of the Gods in the south; and White from our original flag. Navy is used on the left side to represent the Mississippi River. The stars are for Chicago in the NE and for East. St Louis in the SW (off their city flags). The Eagle & Shield is for our original flag in US colors

1984

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home for just five years. I find that it's a great place for retirement. It's a land of plentiful moderation. Everything necessary is within reach; and minimal distractions to constrain me. Illinois now feels like home. And despite temptations for exotic alternatives, there's no substitute for the contentment of this midwestern oasis.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This bold design is called Unified Stars. It emphasizes cooperation, independence, and equality. The reds and blues come from the Chicago flag. The outstretched stars represent our broad reach. And the middle region's converging lines create the illusion of a skyscraper's top, as seen from a bird's eye view.

1985

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a lifelong citizen of Illinois and am a proud Chicagolander. I have gotten involved with various campaigns and initiatives in my community and am a teacher in the norther suburbs of Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Base colors are Pumpkin Orange to represent our state's pumpkin industry (top grower in the US) & for Shawnee National Forest + Garden of the Gods in the south; Yellow for our fields from our state farms, & White from our original flag. Navy is used on the left side to represent the Mississippi River. The stars are for East. St Louis in the SW & for Chicago in the NE w/Light Blue in the corner to mock Lake Michigan (off their city flags). The Eagle & Shield is for our original flag in US colors

1986

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois native and lifelong resident. I am an alumnus of the University of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue diagonal represents the Illinois river, connecting the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River. The green band represents the forests of the south and the prairies of the north. The orange band represents agriculture and energy. The stars represent the 3 capital cities of Illinois and the motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union": A 13-point star for the original states, a 7-point star for other states joining before Illinois and one 5-point star for Illinois' place in the Union.

1987

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois native and lifelong resident. I am an alumnus of the University of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue diagonal represents the Illinois river, connecting the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River. The green band represents the forests of the south and the prairies of the north. The orange band represents agriculture and energy. The stars represent the 3 capital cities of Illinois and the motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union": A 13-point star for the original states, a 7-point star for other states joining before Illinois and one 5-point star for Illinois' place in the Union.



1988

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since I was born. I never left :-)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois, known as the Prairie State, boasts beautiful landscapes. The state tree, a willow, contain deep roots which symbolizes our deep, long-standing roots in the U.S. It also features the state violet. The blue background honors both the U.S. flag and the beauty of our lakes and nature. Additionally, 21 stars represent Illinois as the 21st state in the Union.



1989

Relationship to Illinois

N/a

Explain the meaning behind your flag

n/a



1990

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my whole life. I was born in the Sterling Hospital at Sterling, Illinois and was raised in a smaller town called Oregon, Illinois. When I was 8 years old my mom and I moved to Chicago to live in the city because there's more stuff there. Growing up here feels great. I've adjusted to the standards of Illinois a long time ago and have gotten used to the state and all of its surprises.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors I chose for the flag represent all the good things inside of Illinois and how it has the things that the colors represent for country and state flags. I put a pattern on the top left corner with a certain color order, and on the bottom right corner I just put a black color. They're in right triangle shapes so they can fit the corners. I used the current Illinois flag seal because what's the flag without the unique design of the seal? The meaning behind my flag is the right triangles,



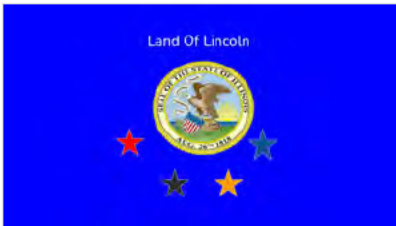
1991

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 15 years. I grew up in the city of Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of the flag is the red star to show the Chicago bull team the orange one to show the Chicago bear team and the blue one to show the Chicago cubs and the black one to show the Chicago sox. The blue flag means that Illinois is strong and peaceful. With the land of Lincoln text on it.



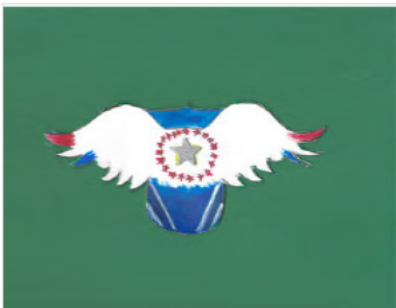
1992

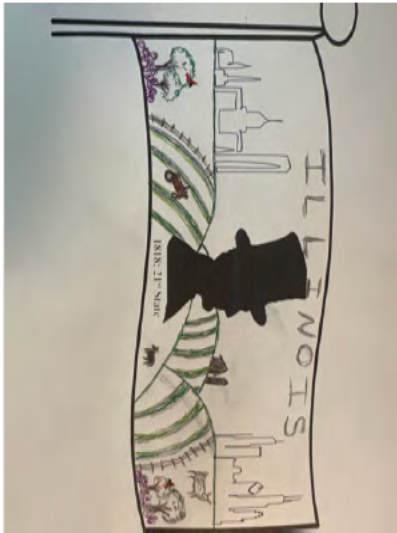
Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Illinois since birth.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green background symbolizes Illinois, the Prairie State. At the center is a shield, referencing the state seal, with eagle wings above it, also from the seal. The red, white, and blue colors honor the U.S. flag, as Illinois' original flag did. Twelve features pay tribute to the 12 tribes of Illinewek, while a central star represents Illinois and unity in diversity.





1993

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised Illinoian.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I feel the flag should represent all of Illinois and the important facts of the state. The rows represent farmland including a tractor, cow and farm on the hill. The purple flowers are Violets, state flower. The 2 cities represent Springfield and Chicago. We are the land of Lincoln. The bird is the State bird, Cardinal and white tailed deer as the State animal. The date represent the year Illinois became a state.



1994

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Waukegan, Illinois and have lived in Grayslake, Illinois all of my life with the exception of attending college at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois. My father's family arrived in Illinois in the mid 1800's so the history of Illinois and my ancestors are of great interest to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed my flag to be simple. I reviewed the Colorado, Texas and New Mexico flags which are simple in design and are regarded as examples of good flag design. I included five stars with each star representing a high-level historic point in time from the beginning to where we are today. 1. Ice Age 2. Human settlement 3. Rural communities 4. Urban communities 5. Suburban communities



1995

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all of my life. I was born and raised here, and plan to spend the rest of my life living here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The deer represents the state animal, a white-tailed deer. The background color, sunset orange, is the color of the sky and fields in Illinois. The plants around the deer represent the forests around Illinois. The deer also represents our pride to be an American and part of Illinois as it stands tall and proud.

1996

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Glenview, grew up in Prospect Heights. Went to High School in Arlington Heights, college in Champaign, IL. I have lived in Chicago, and currently live in Mount Prospect. I have spent much of my childhood in the Chicago museums, and in the Illinois Forest Preserves. I am an Illinoisan through and through, lived here most of my life and feel very connected to the natural land. I love Illinois and it's beauty.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have chosen to feature the Illinois state flower, the violet with my design. The colors surrounding the violet in the center are representative of the prairie of Illinois. I was very inspired by the natural landscape of our beautiful state. I pictured the grasslands surrounding Fermi Lab and think that's representative of the majority of the state of Illinois. Illinois is more than just Chicago. It's spanning prairie. I think we can all unite around our natural, fertile land.

1997

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Glenview, grew up in Prospect Heights. Went to High School in Arlington Heights, and college in Champaign. My parents grew up here and their parents before them. I have lived in Illinois most of my life. I have lived in Chicago and currently live in Mount Prospect. This state is my homeland and a big part of who I am. I am an Illinoisan through and through. I love the natural beauty of Illinois and am proud to call it my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have chosen to feature the Illinois state flower, the violet with my design. The light gold color surrounding the violet in the center represents the prairie of Illinois, and the blue border, the lakes and rivers. I was very inspired by the natural landscape of our beautiful state. I think it's our greatest treasure. The reason the settlers stayed here was because of its fertile land and plentiful access to water. I think we can all unify behind the natural beauty and gifts of our state.



1998

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since birth.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's background symbolizes Illinois' prairie land, with green at the bottom and blue for the sky, lakes, and as a nod to the U.S. flag. The 13 red stripes reference the shield from the original flag. The star represents Illinois and stands for unity in diversity. The circle, like an updated shield, also resembles the sun in the sky.

1999

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago for 18 years with my family where we now live in Logan Square for about 15 years. I first attended St. John Berchmans school for Preschool to Kindergarten, and later transferred to another school called Goethe Elementary school from Kindergarten to First grade and then officially transferred to Alcott Elementary for the rest of of Elementary School. Now I currently go to Lane Tech High School where I am now a senior. Something that I do outside of school is Figure Skating



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The main background color of the flag is white because the color white represents peace and purity. The Illinois state animal is the white tailed deer which was chosen in 1980 by Illinois schoolchildren. The white tailed deer represents a message of great change coming, and also represents grace, gentleness and sensitivity. Under the deer, there is prairie grass which represents one of the natural features in Illinois, and also known as the Prairie State. The Land of Lincoln under the deer and t

2000

Relationship to Illinois

On a chilly February 2018 morning, I finally reached Illinois. A long-delayed dream after retirement from my underground subway position. Illinois offers the best vintage architecture anywhere, the Art Institute of Chicago, nature preserves, and more. Design CV: graphic Purchase Awards: "UCB Jazz Festival", "Artists with Disabilities" touring exhibit; "Altars", Hammer Museum. I am blue collar "Labor", bringing people together. Creating Illinois' new Flag would mean the world to me. Thank-you!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Discarding stale symbols & motto, our new Flag elevates the people of Illinois that government serves. Pairing the Prairie State's memorable shape with Wallace Rice's 1918 featured star forms a bold, easily-recognizable 21st State logo. Harmonious Golden Ratio shape. Symbolic hues: red on white field "of these United States", distinct calming blue "water" from Chicago's beloved Flag. Illinoisans-rural, suburban, urban-united in common purpose by nature's bounty: Lake Michigan & her waterways.

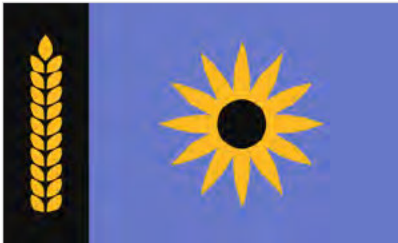
2001

Relationship to Illinois

I am Illinois born and raised. I was born in DuPage county, grew up in the south Chicago suburbs, and intend to live here for the rest of my life. The cultural and geographical history of my home state is very important to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The central flower is a Black Eyed Susan, a wild flower native to the state, the twelve petals of the flower represent the 12 tribes of the Illinois Confederacy. The blue landscape represents Lake Michigan. The grains on the black bar represents the state's agricultural importance, and the 21 buds on the grain represent Illinois' inception into the union as the 21st state.



2002

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston, Illinois, and was raised until the age of 18 in Wilmette, IL. I moved to Massachusetts for college, but when the time came to choose where to live as an adult, I was drawn back to Illinois. I have been living in Chicago since 2020.

I have spent countless hours taking cars and trains and buses through our wonderful state, through fields that stretch forever and towns of proud Illinoisans. I love this state, and all we encompass in our special pocket of the Midwest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors that make up our state: the light blue background for Lake Michigan, the dark blue for the Mississippi, Illinois, and Chicago Rivers. The green for our great prairie, the red for our state bird, the cardinal, and the yellow for so much else that makes us Illinois: the sun rising on our state and our previous flag, our farming industry (corn, dairy, prairie flowers). The shape is an abstract letter I, or abstract silo, inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright who did so much work in our state.



2003

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston, Illinois, and was raised until the age of 18 in Wilmette, IL. I moved to Massachusetts for college, but when the time came to choose where to live as an adult, I was drawn back to Illinois. I have been living in Chicago since 2020.

I have spent countless hours taking cars and trains and buses through our wonderful state, through fields that stretch forever and towns of proud Illinoisans. I love this state, and all we encompass in our special pocket of the Midwest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors that make up our state: the green-blue background and light blue for Lake Michigan, the dark blue for the Mississippi, Illinois, and Chicago Rivers. The green for our great prairie, and the yellow for so much else that makes us Illinois: the sun rising on our state and our previous flag, our farming industry (corn, dairy, prairie flowers). The shape is an abstract letter I, or abstract silo, inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright, who did so much work in our state.



2004

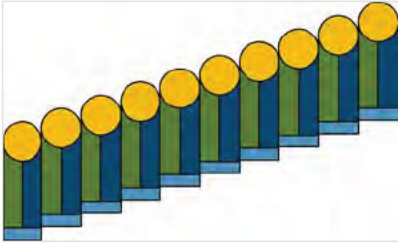
Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston, Illinois, and was raised until the age of 18 in Wilmette, IL. I moved to Massachusetts for college, but when the time came to choose where to live as an adult, I was drawn back to Illinois. I have been living in Chicago since 2020.

I have spent countless hours taking cars and trains and buses through our wonderful state, through fields that stretch forever and towns of proud Illinoisans. I love this state, and all we encompass in our special pocket of the Midwest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The abstract 'I' and silo design, inspired by FLW, from my other flag submissions, adapted. The motif repeated in upward steps-they can be interpreted as silos across a field, as the skyscrapers of Chicago, as the stripes of farmland viewed from above, as any number of things. Colors: light blue for Lake Michigan, dark blue for the Mississippi/Illinois/Chicago Rivers, green for our prairie, yellow for so much else that makes us Illinois: the sun on our prior flag, corn, dairy, prairie flowers.



2005

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I grew up in Highland Park and now live in Chicago. Most of my family is from Illinois, and proudly so!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue field across the top represents Lake Michigan and the green field across the bottom represents our natural prairies. The blue trapezoid represents our waterways and the green trapezoid represents the Cahokia Mounds & our native history. The white diamond represents Illinois' history of industry and echoes the current flag. The sun represents agriculture, the diamond shapes alluding to corn & grain, and there are 13 for the 13th Amendment, which Illinois was the first state to ratify.



2006

Relationship to Illinois

My family has been in the Chicago area for over 100 years. My great grandfather on my mother's side immigrated from Italy to Chicago around 1910 and my father's side arrived about the same time from Galesburg, IL. I grew up in Glenview and currently live in West Town.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has two blue lines converging into one blue line with a bust of Lincoln uniting the elements. This design represents Lincoln keeping the union together and it pays homage to our central place in America with many rivers, roads, and railroads converging here. I choose orange and blue to mimic the colors of the U of I and the Bears while also giving a nod to our rivers, lakes, and how we're the pumpkin capital of the world. Illinois takes raw ideas and materials and forges the future.

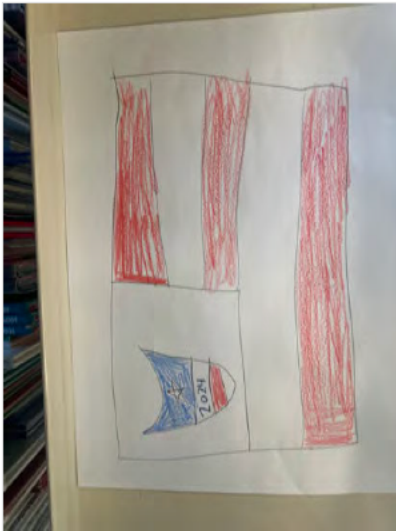
2007

Relationship to Illinois

I was raised here and I did a research project on Illinois and learned a lot about are history. I also would love to help our state have a new flag and make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I love red, white, and blue those colors mean bravery, justice, and peace. The shield is for are fights against everything that comes our way, we as a whole state can do anything together. The 2024 in the stripes on the shield is for when our new flag is made.



2008

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and still live there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The current Illinois flag is a part of our history. My flag redesign pays tribute to the current flag by incorporating many of the same elements while adding my own personal touch. The water represents Lake Michigan, the grassland represents our prairies, and the Bald Eagle stands proud representing our states allegiance to the United States of America.





Office of the Secretary of State

ilsos.gov

Illinois Flag Commission Submissions

2009

Relationship to Illinois

Hello. I was born in Chicago and I really like living in Illinois because it is really peaceful and I love corn.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag includes several Illinois state symbols. The main aspect is the white-tailed deer. My flag also includes a sunset, a white oak (the state tree), and the Illinois state insect, the Monarch Butterfly. My flag has a violet, Illinois's state flower, and a big sky over a grass plain. The United States gained its Independence in 1776 and Illinois became a state in 1818. The actual flag is circular, but it has a white background to give it a rectangle shape.



2010

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in IL

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red Cardinal is our state bird, and a beautiful way to represent our state is by putting the Cardinal on our state flag.



2011



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a graphic designer for G128 and have been living in Illinois my entire life! I love the state from the natural to the urban landscape.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is divided by 3 sections representing the north, south, and central Illinois. The blue representing the body of water that gives Illinois its iconic shape. I have 21 stars that represents Illinois being the 21st state to join the union and I have prairie grass in the center that represents our namesake The Prairie State.

2012



Relationship to Illinois

Growing up and living in Illinois, I have come to love the cities, farms, and suburban areas. I currently work as a Graphic Design Coordinator at G128 LLC in Willowbrook, IL while traveling back and forth from Chicago, born and raised, where I do side projects as an Animator.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The idea behind my design was to capture "The Prairie State." The green represents the grassland. The yellow represents the sun, corn, and wheat. The blue represents our rivers. The meaning of the star is the state being entered in becoming the 21st state.

2013



Relationship to Illinois

Growing up and living in Illinois, I have come to love the cities, farms, and suburban areas. I currently work as a Graphic Design Coordinator at G128 LLC in Willowbrook, IL while traveling back and forth from Chicago, born and raised, where I do side projects as an Animator.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The idea behind my design was to capture "The Prairie State." The green represents the grassland. The yellow represents the sun, corn, and wheat. The blue represents our rivers. The meaning of the star is the state being entered in becoming the 21st state.

2014



Relationship to Illinois

I don't have a relationship to the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top hat represents the Illinois motto "Land of Lincoln" The stars represent statehood. The blue represents rivers/lakes, and the orange represents the prairies. The white represents purity and a hidden letter I.

2015



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in McLean County. Graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University. Author of the American Birding Association Field Guide to Birds of Illinois. Now live part-time among Normal, IL; Fort Worth, TX; and Santa Fe, NM for work and family reasons.

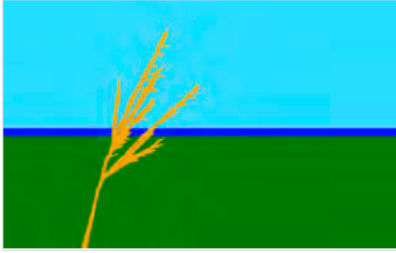
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The lower almost-half is Kelly-green to represent the prairies, fields, and forests. The upper almost-half is sky-blue to represent the expansive sky above the plains. The center has a not-too-thin royal-blue horizontal stripe to represent Lake Michigan just below the horizon. At left center 1/3 out from the hoist is a golden flowering stalk (aka "turkey's foot") of big bluestem--the state prairie grass and a representation of what covered most of Illinois was before European settlement.

2016

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in McLean County. Graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University. Author of the American Birding Association Field Guide to Birds of Illinois. Now live part-time among Normal, IL; Fort Worth, TX; and Santa Fe, NM for work and family reasons.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The lower almost-half is Kelly-green to represent the prairies, fields, and forests. The upper half is sky-blue to represent the expansive sky above the plains. Just below center is a thin royal-blue horizontal stripe to represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. At left center 1/3 out from the hoist is a golden flowering stalk (aka "turkey's foot") of big bluestem--the state prairie grass and a representation of what covered most of Illinois was before European settlement.

2017

Relationship to Illinois

■■■■ was born and has lived all 7 years of her life in the great state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Just Illinois basically.



2018

Relationship to Illinois

■■■■ has live in Gurnee since he was 6 months old and is now ■■■■.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The original prairie. And the nature of Illinois



2019

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I believe I have submitted two flags already but this is my final allowed of my 3 submissions. This is a revision and my final design for what I propose should be the state flag. It uses a thin star pattern for symbolism per point, as the stars on the Chicago flag do, and carries the same blue color for our Great Lake as many other states do, as well as the bleu de ciel for Chicago on the top. It is a simple design that the commission may pick symbolism for, following the rules of vexillology.



2020

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I grew up mostly in the Chicagoland area, but I have also visited to all parts of the State.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has two blue bars on the left and right of the flag. They represent the Mississippi River on the left and Lake Michigan on the right. The 21 gold stars denotes Illinois' position as the 21st state. The stars also represent the top 20 cities of Illinois with the 21st star represents every city, town, and village in Illinois. The blue represents democracy, white represents peace, and gold represents the wealth, treasure, and achievements Illinois has produced to the country.



2021

Relationship to Illinois

Twenty years ago I drove 2000 miles to make Illinois the backdrop for my then, future. I now have a beautiful family, wonderful friends, and my rewarding career as a nurse here. Illinois has supplied me with an abundance of life experiences across its many cities and suburbs. Among my favorite places may just be the native Illinois prairies. Butterflies, diverse plants, and incredible rainbows of birds (over 200 species I've identified!) adorn the Illinois prairies with unbridled, calm bliss.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The urban, suburban, and rural meld together as one to form an "Illinois" skyline (look a little closer!). Throughout its cities and towns are some of the most generous, down to earth, kind folks you could ever meet. The golden band represents the nature-filled prairies that provide a rich abundance of shelter and nourishment for the diverse wildlife and human visitors alike.

2022

Relationship to Illinois

Twenty years ago I drove 2000 miles to make Illinois the backdrop for my brighter future. I now have a beautiful family, wonderful friends, and my rewarding career as a nurse here. Illinois has supplied me with an abundance of life experiences across its many cities and suburbs. Among my favorite places may just be the native Illinois prairies. Butterflies, diverse plants, and incredible rainbows of birds (over 200 species I have seen!) adorn the Illinois prairies with unbridled, calm bliss.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois: The American Prairie State. Blue and red are iterations from the U.S. flag. Illinois is part of this great nation. The 21st state to enter the Union = 21 stars. The stars of the flag form the shape of a common native flower of the Illinois prairie "allium canadense".

2023

Relationship to Illinois

Twenty years ago I drove 2000 miles to make Illinois the backdrop for my brighter future. I now have a beautiful family, wonderful friends, and my rewarding career as a nurse here. Illinois has supplied me with an abundance of life experiences across its many cities and suburbs. Among my favorite places may just be the native Illinois prairies. Butterflies, diverse plants, and incredible rainbows of birds (over 200 species I have seen!) adorn the Illinois prairies with unbridled, calm bliss.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois: The American Prairie State. The colors of red, white, and blue are iterations from the U.S. flag. Illinois is part of this great nation. The 21st state to enter the Union = 21 stars. The stars of the flag form the shape of a common native flower of the Illinois prairie "allium canadense".

2024

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evergreen Park, grew up in the South Suburbs of Chicago (Justice, Orland Park, Homer Glen), graduated from Northern Illinois University (DeKalb), moved to the Western Suburbs (Lisle, Naperville, Wheaton), where my wife and I started a family in Woodridge, IL over 23 years ago. I currently work for a software company in the Chicago Loop, and my daughter is a junior attending University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I was inspired by the 1918 Illinois Centennial Commemorative Half Dollar as a modern take on the state seal. I've made the eagle more life-like, simplified the shield with 13 stripes & 1818 at top, along with an olive branch underneath. In addition, I have added three horizontal stripes to the bottom of the flag that represent Illinois' geographic horizon made up of a Chicago blue sky, the green of Lake Michigan, and the golden maize of Illinois' cornfields & prairies, making this flag unique.

2025

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Hinsdale, grew up in Geneva, went to high school in Lisle and grad school in Chicago. My parents were born and raised on Chicago's north side. While I currently live and work in Washington, DC., my job with the federal government has given me the chance to visit and engage with communities across Illinois, including Rock Island (Quad Cities), Springfield, and Alton. Most of my family still live in Illinois, including my parents and older siblings. It is where my roots are.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A pirogue (IL state cultural artifact; triangle) parts waters as it moves confidently into the future. The deep blue recalls Abraham Lincoln's commitment to preserving the Union. The green is for our verdant prairies. White connects the new flag to our previous ones which had the distinctive white field. The 17 six-pointed stars total 102 points, representing all the people of Illinois across its 102 counties.



2026

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Hinsdale, grew up in Geneva, went to high school in Lisle and grad school in Chicago. My parents were born and raised on Chicago's north side. While I currently live and work in Washington, DC., my job with the federal government has given me the chance to visit and engage with communities across Illinois, including Rock Island (Quad Cities), Springfield, and Alton. Most of my family still live in Illinois, including my parents and older siblings. It is where my roots are.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The central field is a rendering of Abraham Lincoln's iconic "stovepipe" hat in honor of Illinois' most famous son and our nickname "Land of Lincoln." Green is for our verdant prairies touched by the golden rays of a rising sun. The blue fields on either side recall the great lake and mighty rivers forming our state borders. White stars on blue echo the U.S. flag and the Union Lincoln fought to preserve. The 17 six-points stars' 102 total points represent all residents across its 102 counties.



2027

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Hinsdale, grew up in Geneva, went to high school in Lisle and grad school in Chicago. My parents were born and raised on Chicago's north side. While I currently live and work in Washington, DC., my job with the federal government has given me the chance to visit and engage with communities across Illinois, including Rock Island (Quad Cities), Springfield, and Alton. Most of my family still live in Illinois, including my parents and older siblings. It is where my roots are.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag draws on the imagery of the sun rising into the sky (light blue stripe) above a prairie (green stripe) and tranquil waters ("Union" blue stripe) on the IL state seal. The white accent lines connect this flag to IL's past flags with their white backgrounds. The radiant, rising sun represents IL's hospitality and its residents' aspirations. The sun's 12 rays honor the heritage of IL's indigenous peoples and recall the 12 tribes of the Illiniwek Confederation, which gave IL its name.



2028

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

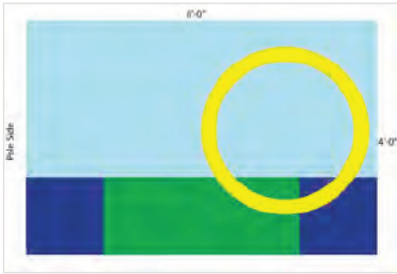
My flag design includes the Illinois state bird, the cardinal and the state flower, violets. These symbols represent the natural beauty of Illinois.



2029

Relationship to Illinois

C. Eugene Elliott was born in Avon, Illinois, raised, schooled and graduated from Galesburg Senior H.S. He received a BA in Architecture from the University of Illinois and was licensed and practiced in Rockford where he currently resides retired.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue is for Mississippi, Wabash & Ohio rivers, and Lake Michigan that form borders for IL. Green is for Farmlands producing soybeans and corn which exports nationally. Light blue is for sky as in Skyscrapers, the first in the World built in Chicago 1885. Yellow ring is for Ferris Wheel invented by Geo. Ferris born in Galesburg. The first Ferris Wheel in the World appeared in the World Expo in Chicago 1893. Yellow brings FUN & JOY to the flag.

2030

Relationship to Illinois

I am a fifth generation and life long Illinois resident, born and raised in Danville. I graduated university of Illinois in Champaign. I currently work in the design industry in Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's 21 point star*represents Illinois's entry to the union as the 21st state, its 5 stripes represent*the 5 regions of the state. The green represents the rich agricultural heritage of the state. The large blue bands on the edges symbolize the largest waterways, the Mississippi river and lake Michigan, which made the state a trade hub and contributed to the success of the economy here.

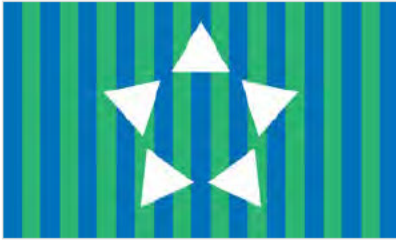
2031

Relationship to Illinois

I am a fifth generation and life long Illinois resident, born and raised in Danville. I graduated university of Illinois in Champaign. I currently work in the design industry in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's 21 stripes represent Illinois's entry to the union as the 21st state, it's 5 triangles represent the 5 regions of the state. The green represents the rich agricultural heritage of the area and blue symbolizes the waterways which made the state a trade hub and contributed to the success of the economy here.



2032

Relationship to Illinois

I am a fifth generation and life long Illinois resident, born and raised in Danville. I graduated university of Illinois in Champaign. I currently work in the design industry in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's 21 stripes represent Illinois's entry to the union as the 21st state, it's 5 triangles represent the 5 regions of the state. The green represents the rich agricultural heritage of the area and blue symbolizes the waterways which made the state a trade hub and contributed to the success of the economy here.



2033

Relationship to Illinois

I am a life long resident of this great state. I was born and raised on the southside of Chicago and now live in Edwardsville. I went to school at Eastern and SIU Edwardsville.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Harvest orange represents agriculture while river blue represent the water ways which shaped our history and geography. The 4 lines represent major rivers and their tributaries: Ohio, Mississippi, Illinois, Chicago. The 102 total points on the (17) 6 point stars represent the 102 counties of the state. The IL Wheel will be a new symbol and represents the importance of transportation on the state (Rt 66, interstates, railroads, river boats, airports, etc.) 21 spokes represent the 21st State,

2034

Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raise in Illinois and raising my family here now. I was born at Michael Reese hospital on Chicago's southside and raised in the Hyde Park neighborhood. I am proud to have attended Chicago Public schools. I have lived in San Francisco, New Orleans, Mesa AZ, Atlanta, and Philadelphia, but always considered Chicago home. On a road trip to the Shawnee and Illinois wine country, and I learned so much that now when I travel with my kids we explore all Illinois has to offer.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue stripe-waterways-Lake Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio and Wabash borders + Illinois that flows within
Red star-Chicago and the industrial +business force that we are in the country and world.
Gold stripe -agricultural core. small + large producers that power our mighty state
Silver star-Lincoln, Grant, Reagan, Obama& veterans. nod to wind farms + bright future + wind power
Green Strp-the Shawnee and other forests
Navy star -Springfield, Cairo and other municipalities
white bkgrd-old flag

2035

Relationship to Illinois

When I first visited Chicago, I was amazed at the beauty of the city and state. Lake Michigan is such an amazing place to see in the city. I have had some interest in the Illinois River as well, sadly I could not travel outside of Chicago to go there. I saw some pictures and thought it was cool and beautiful. The prairies are beautiful as well with their vibrant looks. The night sky was very nice to see over the waters of Lake Michigan. Seeing the snow was also very nice and calming.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

White - Represents the snow in the north, and the beauty of it in the state. Green - The Prairies and their beauty, hence the nickname Light Blue - Lake Michigan and the Illinois River, and the 2nd meaning is Lincoln because of he liked this color, using it in the civil war and it means stability and trustworthiness, which also represented him well. Dark Blue - The night sky The Star - Primarily means statehood, but also means guidance

2036

Relationship to Illinois

We reside in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose a navy blue background because it represents the navy blue portion of the American flag. I chose the top hat to represent the 16th president Abraham Lincoln. I chose Abraham Lincoln because he lived in Illinois and he was an influential president. I also chose a top hat because Illinois is known as the Land of Lincoln.



2037

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago. It is the city where I grew up, went to school, and started my career. My job has since taken me elsewhere, but my parents still live there, and it is very much my home state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun in the middle is from the original flag, but now has 16 points to represent Lincoln, the sixteenth president. Its amber color references the "amber waves of grain" throughout the state. The rust red color around the cardinal points make a compass and represent Illinois' history and present as a major center of the country. Finally, the blue stripes are taken from the Chicago flag, as a reference to the largest city, and represent the Mississippi to the west and Lake Michigan to the east.

2038

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the city of Chicago. I went to college at DePaul University and have traveled through out Illinois for boy scouts, school and family trips. I am currently attending Purdue to complete my doctorate but my goal is to return to the state that raised me. My family has proudly lived in Chicago for the past three generations and I intend on continuing that tradition.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is composed of four colors. The flag focuses on representing our proud history as a center of trade. The blue represents Lake Michigan and our many rivers. The black lines represents our highways and railroads. The green and yellow represent both our main agriculture exports (corn and soy) and our prairies. The circle at the center of the flag represents how we are at the center of the US and how many roads pass through Illinois. The triangle represents Lake Michigan.

2039

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois for 11 years. I grew up in rural Indiana, 20-30 miles from the Illinois border, regularly visiting Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the colors to honor Illinoisans' relationship to land and water. Blue symbolizes our status as a Great Lakes state, and green represents Illinois as a leader in agriculture. The three stars celebrate the three vital, interconnected cultures within the state-urban, suburban, and rural.



2040

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois for 11 years. I grew up in rural Indiana, 20-30 miles from the Illinois border, regularly visiting Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the colors to honor Illinoisans' relationship to land and water. Blue symbolizes our status as a Great Lakes state, and green represents Illinois as a leader in agriculture. The three stars celebrate the three vital, interconnected cultures within the state-urban, suburban, and rural.



2041

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois for 11 years. I grew up in rural Indiana, 20-30 miles from the Illinois border, regularly visiting Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the colors to honor Illinoisans' relationship to land and water. Blue symbolizes our status as a Great Lakes state, and green represents Illinois as a leader in agriculture. The three stars celebrate the three vital, interconnected cultures within the state-urban, suburban, and rural.



2042



Relationship to Illinois

My son was born in a beautiful state called Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red star represents Chicago and the blue star represents Lake Michigan. The red star that is in the bottom represents Springfield and the eagle represents the whole state of Illinois. And finally the blue in the top and bottom represents the skies and rivers in Illinois.

2043



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue stripe on the left represents the Mississippi River which forms the Western border for Illinois, the Blue stripe on the right represents Lake Michigan, and the shade of blue of both stripes (and stars) is to represent Springfield. The Orange is to represent the fact we produce most of the Pumpkins of the states. The white is to represent Chicago, and the 21 Stars to represent Illinois becoming the 21st State, with the Star in the Middle to represent Illinois itself.

2044

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. I was born in Hinsdale, have always lived in Will County, and plan on staying in Chicagoland forever. My family has been here for at least 160 years, being immigrants originally from Central and Eastern Europe. My father's family is from southern Illinois (around Johnston City) and Chicago, and my mother's family is from Lemont and Chicago. I am a member of NAVA and passionate about flags, and have had a design ready for 15 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a tricolor with a six-pointed star in the fly, and a thinner middle stripe. The colors are white, blue, and gold. They symbolize the 3 productive elements of our state. White (and the star) are for our industry, centered largely in Chicago. Blue is for our waterways, which is what attracted settlers early on. And gold is, of course, emblematic of our massive agricultural production. The design is simple, highly visible in a variety of contexts, and unlike other state flags.

2045

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. I was born in Hinsdale, have always lived in Will County, and plan on staying in Chicagoland forever. My family has been here for at least 160 years, being immigrants originally from Central and Eastern Europe. My father's family is from southern Illinois (around Johnston City) and Chicago, and my mother's family is from Lemont and Chicago. I am a member of NAVA and passionate about flags, and have had a design ready for 15 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a tricolor with a six-pointed star in the center, and a thinner middle stripe. The colors are white, blue, and gold. They symbolize the 3 productive elements of our state. White (and the star) are for our industry, centered largely in Chicago. Blue is for our waterways, which is what attracted settlers early on. And gold is, of course, emblematic of our massive agricultural production. The design is simple, highly visible in a variety of contexts, and unlike other state flags.

2046

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. I was born in Hinsdale, have always lived in Will County, and plan on staying in Chicagoland forever. My family has been here for at least 160 years, being immigrants originally from Central and Eastern Europe. My father's family is from southern Illinois (around Johnston City) and Chicago, and my mother's family is from Lemont and Chicago. I am a member of NAVA and passionate about flags, and have had a design ready for 15 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a tricolor with a fleur-de-lis in the fly, and a thinner middle stripe. The colors are white, blue, and gold. They symbolize the 3 productive elements of our state. White is for our industry, blue is for our waterways, and gold is emblematic of our massive agricultural production. The fleur-de-lis is for the state history, largely explored and named by French colonists. The design is simple, highly visible in a variety of contexts, and unlike other state flags.

2047

Relationship to Illinois

I love IL, I love Chicago. Illinois has been my home since 2020. I came here planning to stay just one year, but it's now almost five. I'm deeply grateful for the warm welcome, the people I've met, and the opportunities that have come my way. I love and respect this place as if I were a local. As a designer, I stumbled upon the chance to contribute to my home, and it feels like it was meant to be*a way to express my gratitude to this amazing state and its people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Main color: Blue represents the state's lakes and rivers (Lake Michigan, Carlyle Lake, Chicago River). The blue forms a capital "I" for Illinois and Route 66. One star symbolizes Illinois as the 21st state and Chicago as its dominant city. The second star stands for "The Land of Lincoln." It also features the violet state flower.*Note: After testing Lincoln's hat and the fasces symbol, the star proved to be the best and most memorable representation.

2048

Relationship to Illinois

I love IL, I love Chicago. Illinois has been my home since 2020. I came here planning to stay just one year, but it's now almost five. I'm deeply grateful for the warm welcome, the people I've met, and the opportunities that have come my way. I love and respect this place as if I were a local. As a designer, I stumbled upon the chance to contribute to my home, and it feels like it was meant to be a way to express my gratitude to this amazing state and its people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The main color, blue, represents the state's lakes and rivers, including Lake Michigan, Carlyle Lake, and the Chicago River. The symbols are enclosed in a circle, representing "The Land of Lincoln." The Star 1 marks Illinois as the 21st state. The 2 star represents Chicago as its dominant city. The design also includes blue stripes symbolizing Route 66 and features the violet state flower in the middle of the stars.

2049

Relationship to Illinois

I love IL, I love Chicago. Illinois has been my home since 2020. I came here planning to stay just one year, but it's now almost five. I'm deeply grateful for the warm welcome, the people I've met, and the opportunities that have come my way. I love and respect this place as if I were a local. As a designer, I stumbled upon the chance to contribute to my home, and it feels like it was meant to be a way to express my gratitude to this amazing state and its people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue represents the state's lakes and rivers, including Lake Michigan, Carlyle Lake, and the Chicago River. The white negative space forms a capital "I" for Illinois and Route 66. The symbols are enclosed in a circle at the center, representing "The Land of Lincoln," drawing attention while preserving the "I" and symbols. The first star symbolizes Illinois as the 21st state, while the second star represents Chicago as the dominant city. The design also features the violet state flower.

2050



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag shows the Prairie State with its golden cornfields and state flower, the violet, flanked by blue stripes representing Lake Michigan and the Mississippi.

These symbols demonstrate the diversity of the state and the source of its strength, both as a hub at the junction of east and west and its rich rural heritage.

2051



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here for my whole life and attended Illinois public schools for the past 12 years of my life and will be voting for the first time this November.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors:Cardinal -Illinois' state birdWhite -State sovereigntyNavy -National Unity

Elements:Stripe -Illinois' waterways/Illinois riverStars (top row to bottom row, from left to right):1. The native peoples of Illinois2. Exploration by Jolliet and Marquette3. Illinois gains statehood4. Founding of Chicago5. Springfield made state capital6. Illinois rejects slavery7. Abraham Lincoln elected president8. Fermi starts the first controlled fission reaction starting the atomic age

2052



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here for my whole life and attended Illinois public schools for the past 12 years of my life and will be voting for the first time this November.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are 20 stars in a circle that represent the 20 states that came before Illinois with the large 21st star in the center standing for Illinois. The stars are in a circle to represent half of our state motto: National unity. While the white stripe represents the other half: State Sovereignty.

2053

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my entire life. Both of my parents and all of my grandparents have also lived here their entire lives. My great and 2x great grandparents immigrated to Chicago from Europe. My dad's side is from the rural farm side of the state, and my mom's is from the more urban side. I attended Harper College and Illinois State University.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white spaces are 8 times as wide as the blue, which can be written as 1-8-1-8, or the year Illinois was founded. The blue stripes match the locations of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. The 3 stars on the left are for the 3 state capitals, Kaskaskia, Vandalia, and Springfield. The 6-pointed star is for Chicago and is similar to the city's flag. The points on the stars add to 21, and Illinois is the 21st state. The blue is for Lake Michigan and the red is for the cardinal, the state bird.

2054

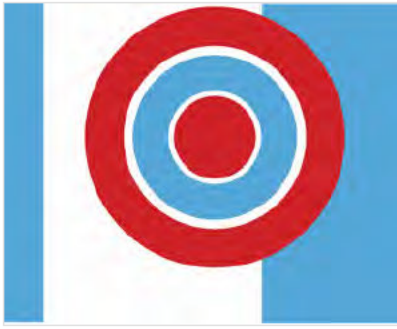
Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here for my whole life and attended Illinois public schools for the past 12 years of my life and will be voting for the first time this November.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Alternate design of my previous entry has a smaller aspect ration to help it stand out against other state flags. The stars in a circle: each star represents a state that came before Illinois. they are individual stars to represent state sovereignty but are in a circle to represent National Unity. 21st star at the center of the circle: stands for Illinois





2055

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Chicago and work at The University of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is the heart of the Midwest. The flag represents this with a radar-like concentric circle emanating from where Illinois' relative position in the midwest. On the right and left are two blue stripes that represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River



2056

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 41-year resident. I was born in rural northern Illinois, attended college at UIUC in Champaign, lived and studied as a young adult in Chicago, and now reside in the suburbs. I spent my HS/college summers enjoying our many parks and surveying roadways for IDOT. I try to give back to our state now by serving as a college teacher and as a commissioner in my hometown. My goal in submitting a flag design is to honor the great diversity of Illinois, which has given me so much over the years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The merging of colors into a solid band represents the coming together of people from every walk of life to build our great state. Colors Red*Blood of patriots Blue*Majestic waterways Gold*Bounty of farmers Black*Architecture, industry & labor Red*State bird & abundant wildlife Points of star People*Native inhabitants*Peaceful settlers*State founders*Southern migrants*Immigrants & refugees Regions*Southern*Central & Capitol*Northern*Heritage Metro*Chicago Metro

2057

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the state of Illinois since 1993.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White star symbolizes Illinois' place in the U.S., representing unity and justice. The arc of smaller stars mimics the original 13 colonies, with Illinois as the 21st state, representing growth and advancement. The prairie grass represents Illinois' agricultural heritage and nickname as the "Prairie State." Blue signifies Lake Michigan and other waters and the vast sky, gold symbolizes the state's agricultural tradition, and white stands for justice, equality, and purity.



2058

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the state of Illinois since 1993.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White star symbolizes Illinois' place in the U.S., representing unity and justice. The arc of smaller stars mimics the original 13 colonies, with Illinois as the 21st state, representing growth and advancement. The prairie grass represents Illinois' agricultural heritage and nickname as the "Prairie State." Blue signifies Lake Michigan and other waters and the vast sky, gold symbolizes the state's agricultural tradition, and white stands for justice, equality, and purity.



2059

Relationship to Illinois

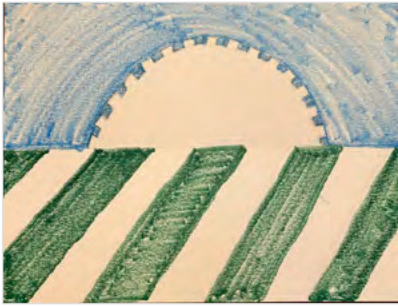
I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the state of Illinois since 1993.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White star symbolizes Illinois' place in the U.S., representing unity and justice. The array of smaller stars mimics the original 13 colonies, with Illinois as the 21st state representing the state's history in the union. The prairie grass represents Illinois' agricultural heritage and nickname as the "Prairie State." Blue signifies Lake Michigan and other waters and the vast sky, gold symbolizes the state's agricultural tradition, and white stands for justice, equality, and purity.



2060



Relationship to Illinois

I live here in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The fields represent most of the state and the "sun" is made in to look like a gear for the industry here in the state, a little bit of rural and urban representation. I think it would be great if the gear had 18 spokes and the fields had 18 rows for the 1818 establishment of Illinois.

2061



Relationship to Illinois

I live here, born and raised.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the bottom half to be green to present the prairie throughout the state. The blue upper half represents the lake on the north half of the state. There are two stars to represent Chicago as the "second city," and the stars have five points (unlike Chicago's six pointed stars) as these stars represent a sovereign state.

2062



Relationship to Illinois

I live here, born and raised.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the bottom half to be green to present the prairie throughout the state. The blue upper half represents the lake on the north half of the state. There are two stars to represent Chicago as the "second city," and the stars have five points (unlike Chicago's six pointed stars) as these stars represent a sovereign state.



2063

Relationship to Illinois

lives here. She was born and is being raised here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green part of the flag represents the prairie and the corn represent a part of the agriculture. The blue represents the Mississippi River and the other rivers therein.

The building represents Chicago and other cities too.

2064

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. My primary residence is in Berkeley, a beautiful village of about 5,000 people in the western suburbs of Chicago. Nowadays, I am a university student, studying engineering at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. I owe my interest in this flag contest to my mother, a local librarian who always striven for our family to be civically engaged.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

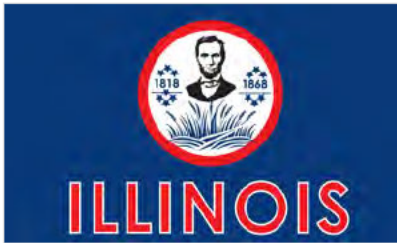
The profile of Abraham Lincoln is symbolic of our status as the Land of Lincoln. The ring in the middle of the flag represents our unity; as a circle has no sides and no breaks, we are all equally a part of Illinois. It is violet, the color of our state flower and symbolic of our natural beauty. In vexillology, purple also represents prosperity. Lastly, the image of our state serves to make the flag easily recognizable, even to residents of other states. For more info, please e-mail me.



2065

Relationship to Illinois

As someone born and raised in Illinois, this simplified and modern design resonates deeply. It represents the highly recognized symbols that make Illinois strong, blending historical significance with a fresh, contemporary aesthetic. Illinois is a unique and fulfilling place to live because of its exciting sports, high-quality education, and strong feeling of community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Imagine a striking state flag embracing the colors of the United States. At its heart, a red and white circle frames Abraham Lincoln and prairie grass. Lincoln, depicted in black, emphasizes his prominence. The prairie grass represents the state's natural beauty and agricultural heritage. Thirteen stars split around the dates 1818 and 1868 symbolize the original colonies. The blue background unifies, echoing Illinois' skies and waters, honoring its history and looking forward to a bright future.

2066

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois born & raised. Also current Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

4 Stripes*green (prairie), yellow (corn), blue (Chicago and waterways), gray (road and railway transportation). Native prairie plants*Big Bluestem (5 blades for main Illini tribes, 12 flower spikelets for 12-13 total Illini tribes, one blade points to Cahokia mounds) and Common Milkweed (102 total pairs of veins represent 102 IL counties). Monarch butterfly represents tenacity, transformation, hope, and great distances*everything that represents IL past, present, and future.



2067

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago proper for 25 years and grew up in the surrounding Chicagoland suburbs. I have seen our state be the "third coast" but I truly believe we are the centerpiece of the nation. We may not be the first to do much, we have one of the most complete and mindful and balanced approach towards progressing our state with regards to food, culture, differences, choice and nature. The state of Illinois has a history of development, rebirth, native American presence, and agriculture.



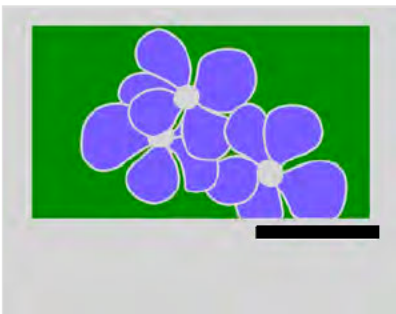
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red, black, yellow colors appear for the Illinois tribes who used these colors to represent themselves on hides and faces. The three horizontal sections distinguish the sections of the state; northern, central, and southern or city/suburban/rural, while also representing a feeling of face paint and city skyline. The yellow color and corn stalk represents the production of the second most corn in the country. The red star and white lines reminds us of Chicago flag and skyline buildings.

2068

Relationship to Illinois

I am John Hartman. Born in Alton and grew up in Edwardsville. Attended classes at Illinois State University and the University of Illinois. Moved away then back to Edwardsville. Ran for Congress from IL-13 as an Independent in 2012. For 25 years, I have owned and managed a tall grass prairie near Edwardsville.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Because violets are so welcoming, it makes the intricate design possible. We can get away with so many shapes precisely because violets are just too familiar and gentle to be taxing. The state flower is not a bouquet, this is what they really look like* in flag language. Nature has done the arranging and shaping. Simple beauty in nature is more than enough for intellectual sophistication, the look is part and parcel of the universe, both common and inexhaustible, yet seen by kids as fun.

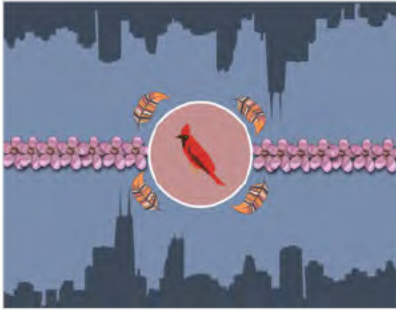
2069

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois goes back to my grandfather because he was born and raised in a suburb of Chicago. My dad, my sister, and I were all born in Illinois. I have lived here for my whole life. What I like about Illinois is the cities of Harwood Heights and Chicago. I have been going to Harwood Heights my entire life. I also used to go to downtown Chicago with my grandparents all the time to go to the American Girl Doll store and to see the animals at the Shedd Aquarium.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flower lines represent the violets, Illinois's state flower. The northern cardinal represents the state bird. The skyline is Chicago's, the biggest city in Illinois. The feathers represent the Native American heritage of Illinois and its people.



2070

Relationship to Illinois

I am a fourth generation Illinoisan, born and raised in rural Illinois. Upon graduating high-school I decided to stay in state for college and currently attend Eastern Illinois University, where I study graphic design. I am proud to call Illinois my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The main focus of my flag is a simplified silhouette of the Illinois state animal, the White-tailed deer. From its antlers hang 13 stars to represent the original 13 colonies that formed the United States. Behind the deer the space is divided into two colors, blue and yellow. The blue represents the rivers and lakes in Illinois, and the yellow represents agriculture. Together, the blue and yellow evoke a sense of the state's natural beauty and agricultural heritage.



2071

Relationship to Illinois

I am a fourth generation Illinoisan, born and raised in rural Illinois. Upon graduating high-school I decided to stay in state for college and currently attend Eastern Illinois University, where I study graphic design. I am proud to call Illinois my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

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2072

Relationship to Illinois

I am a fourth generation Illinoisan, born and raised in rural Illinois. Upon graduating high-school I decided to stay in state for college and currently attend Eastern Illinois University, where I study graphic design. I am proud to call Illinois my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The main focus of my flag is a simplified silhouette of the Illinois state animal, the White-tailed deer. From it's antlers hang 13 stars to represent the original 13 colonies that formed the United States. Behind the deer the space is divided into two colors, blue and yellow. The blue represents the rivers and lakes in Illinois, and the yellow represents agriculture. Together, the blue and yellow evoke a sense of the state's natural beauty and agricultural heritage.



2073

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of the USA living in Bloomington, Illinois and working for Illinois State University as a graphic designer. I moved to Illinois from California 4 years ago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Prairie Star flag design uses the golden yellow band represents the prairie for which our state is nicknamed. The blue six-pointed star sits in the center of the 2 halves of the flag, while subtly referencing Chicago and its impact on the region, it also represents unity and diversity within the state. The positions of its elements represent the distinctiveness between prairie and city, cool and warm, agriculture and industry, tradition and innovation. The stars points are equally shared.



2074

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of the USA living in Bloomington, Illinois and working for Illinois State University as a graphic designer. I moved to Illinois from California 4 years ago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Prairie Star flag design uses the golden yellow band represents the prairie for which our state is nicknamed. The blue six-pointed star sits in the center of the 2 halves of the flag, while subtly referencing Chicago and its impact on the region, it also represents unity and diversity within the state. The positions of its elements represent the distinctiveness between prairie and city, cool and warm, agriculture and industry, tradition and innovation. The stars points are equally shared.



2075

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of the USA living in Bloomington, Illinois and working for Illinois State University as a graphic designer. I moved to Illinois from California 4 years ago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 Region flag references Illinois' distinct geographical divisions: northern, central, and southern. The blue references the Chicago flag and represents the northern sky, lakes, and rivers. The gold references the native prairie land and agricultural fields of the central region. The green represents the lush Shawnee National Forest, and rugged natural landscape of the southern region.



2076

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Bloomington, IL. My partner and I moved from San Diego, California during the pandemic to be closer to my business partner; I operate a small design firm based in Peoria that provides graphics services to the hobby game industry. Bloomington has been such a delight, especially coming from San Diego. We've immersed ourselves in the local communities and civic opportunities in a way that's impossible in a big city. Illinois is the best home we've had.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White and red at the top of the flag symbolizes progress and the city of Chicago specifically, with the red six-pointed star specifically referencing the Chicago flag. Gold represents the prairie and agriculture that covers most of central and southern Illinois. Blue stripes represent important rivers: the Mississippi to the west and smaller rivers like the Illinois. The shape of the stripes wrapping over the flag symbolizes a weaving together of the different parts of the state.



2077

Relationship to Illinois

I am 78 years old and I have spent all of those years living in Illinois and I intend to spend whatever years I have left in this wonderful state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star within a star stands for Lincoln's two greatest accomplishments. The yellow star is for abolishing slavery and the blue star is for preserving the Union. The rays coming from the double star represent the importance of Lincoln's accomplishments, The white field pointing forward signifies Illinois' part in abolishing slavery by being the first state to ratify the 13th amendment. The blue chevron pointing forward signifies how Illinois continues to lead with hope and optimism.



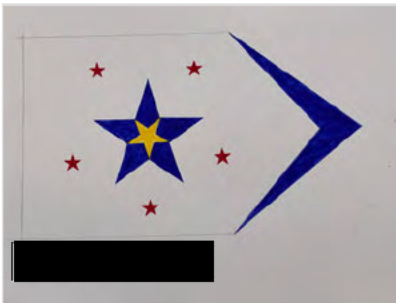
2078

Relationship to Illinois

I am 78 years old and I have spent all those years living in Illinois and I intend to spend whatever years I have left in this wonderful state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star within a star stands for our state motto. The smaller star is for state sovereignty. The larger star is for national union. The white field pointing forward is for IL being the first state to ratify the 13th amendment abolishing slavery. Red stars = IL events: #1 Cahokia; largest Indian settlement outside of Mexico. #2 Marquette & Joliet; 1st European explorers. #3 DuSable; the father of IL's largest city. #4 IL becomes a state. #5 Lincoln in IL. The blue chevron-IL continues to lead.



2079



Relationship to Illinois

My maternal grandfather was born in Chicago in 1917. His parents were immigrants from Eastern Europe. My sister lived and worked in Champaign-Urbana during the late 1990s/early 2000s.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Proudly display this flag portrait style to convey the north-south directionality of Illinois. The blue vertical band symbolizes the Mississippi River which runs along Illinois' western border. The field of yellow is a tribute to Illinois' corn farmers. The stovepipe top hat pays homage to the Land of Lincoln. The triangular blue region in the upper right represents Lake Michigan. The light blue color is a further tribute to the City of Chicago. Viewed from a far distance, this flag spells "IL".

2080



Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] I am 11 years old. I was born in Illinois (Park Ridge, IL). I live in Norridge, IL. I go to school in Norridge Illinois and we were encouraged to make a new Illinois flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents Illinois in many ways. One way is the Illinois State animal which is the deer. The second way is the Illinois State flower which is called the Common Blue Violet. And the third way is the border of Illinois. I added all three of these very important things to Illinois to show the importance of these things. I put 21 stars because Illinois is the 21st state.

2081

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Plainfield, Illinois. I have lived here my entire life, both of my parents were raised in Illinois, and most of my extended family lives here. I love living in Illinois because of the change of seasons, and I enjoy visiting the major cities such as Chicago and Springfield.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eagle silhouette pays homage to the current Illinois state flag. The 16 stars are a reference to Abraham Lincoln, who was the 16th president of the United States. The 16 stars are also a reminder of the state slogan, "Land of Lincoln". Taking inspiration from the current Illinois flag, I put the subjects in a circular manner in the center. The blue color scheme evokes power. This is a simple and minimalistic design with strong symbolism, that keeps the memory of the current flag.

2082

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Plainfield, Illinois. I have lived here my entire life, both of my parents were raised in Illinois, and most of my extended family lives here. I love living in Illinois because of the change of seasons, and I enjoy visiting the major cities such as Chicago and Springfield.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stars and minimalistic eagle silhouette pay homage to the current Illinois state flag. The blue horizontal stripe represents the lakes and rivers surrounding Illinois. The 16 stars are a reference to Abraham Lincoln, who was the 16th president of the United States. The 16 stars also represent the state slogan, "Land of Lincoln". I put the subjects in a center circle to keep the memory of the current state flag. Red, white, and blue make the flag feel familiar and evokes Illinois pride.

2083

Relationship to Illinois

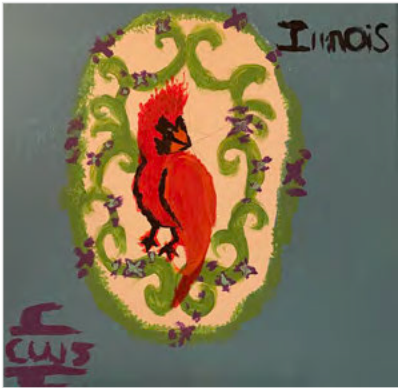
I was born and raised in Plainfield, Illinois. I have lived here my entire life, both of my parents were raised in Illinois, and most of my extended family lives here. I love living in Illinois because of the change of seasons, and I enjoy visiting the major cities such as Chicago and Springfield.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The theme of this flag design is "Land of Lincoln", which is the Illinois state slogan.

The white silhouette of Lincoln represents the strong impact he had on the history of Illinois and our country. He is a recognizable symbol of Illinois, which makes this flag easy to associate with the state of Illinois. The vertical, symmetrical design is clean and visually appealing. Red, white, and blue are strong, bold, memorable colors. The eight stars refer to 1818, the year Illinois was founded.



2084

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag shows a cardinal against a blue field symbolizing the waters of Lake Michigan, and surrounded by a garland of violets, which are the state flower.

2085

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois for all of my 71 years, mostly in Champaign County. I worked at the University of Illinois for almost 40 years; and although I have considered moving to another (warmer) state, I believe I would miss the flat prairie and cornfields of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors on the borders of the flag are orange and blue to signify not only the University of Illinois colors but also the Chicago Bears (or orange for pumpkin pie!). The deer and violet are both state symbols; and I added a silhouette of Illinois rather than use letters or slogans that sometimes can be lost when the flag is at rest instead of in full display when the wind causes it to show fully.

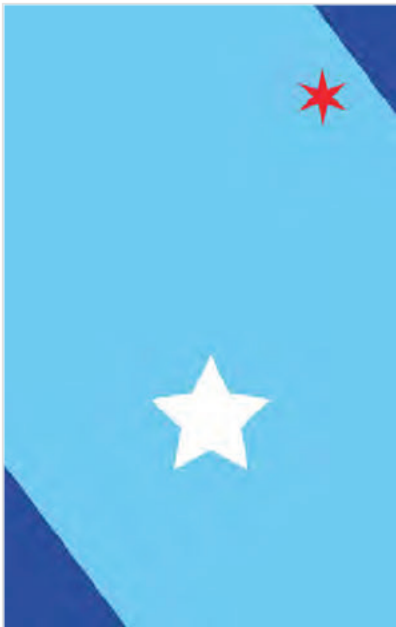
2086

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident, I moved here as a child from California in 1998. I moved around a bit, but came back here when I had kids. I love having my family here, we have great schools, a great community, its diverse and wonderful.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white five pointed star symbolizes Springfield the state capitol, the smaller six pointed red star symbolizes Chicago Illinois' largest city. The upper right triangle stands for lake Michigan, while the bottom triangle stands for the Mississippi River. When hung vertical it can be seen like a map.



2087

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago and reside in River Forest, IL. I've spent my whole life thus far in our state, including gaining degrees from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and from UIC in Chicago. I am one of 20 very proud grandchildren of Herbert Rieger, who was a Battalion Chief at Engine 98 near the Water Tower. Later in life, my grandfather taught fire prevention on WGN's Garfield Goose show. Our family arrived in Chicago in 1924, fleeing persecution after WW1.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I'm submitting two designs: a more detailed one and a second simplified one after reading "Good Flag, Bad Flag." My designs feature two blue stripes, one the silhouette of the Willis Tower and the other the Mississippi River as it passes Illinois' Western border. Our state bird is proud, wearing Lincoln's iconic top hat. One of the designs also shows our state's tree leaves, the White Oak. I aimed to create a simple, inclusive design Statewide (West, Springfield, and Chicago).

2088

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago and reside in River Forest, IL. I've spent my whole life thus far in our state, including gaining degrees from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and from UIC in Chicago. I am one of 20 very proud grandchildren of Herbert Rieger, who was a Battalion Chief at Engine 98 near the Water Tower. Later in life, my grandfather taught fire prevention on WGN's Garfield Goose show. Our family arrived in Chicago in 1924, fleeing persecution after WW1.



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2089

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago. Went to grammar school and High school in Chicago. Then on to the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana. After 4 years, I spent 3 years in U.S. Navy. I worked for several companies in Chicago. I spent 21 years in the Illinois Naval Reserve mainly at the (long gone) Naval Armory at the lake front. I lived in Chicago, Oak Park, & Springfield (16 years). In May 2024, I had to move to Milwaukee for medical reasons and to be closer to my children.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A cream colored field which blends the warmth of yellow with the simplicity of white. It symbolizes comfort and warmth. A patriotic circle of stars and stripes suggests a community that supports its members. Within the circle are two of the State's endearing symbols. The cardinal is known its "cheer cheer cheer," sweet whistle. They're a symbol of hope and joy. Violets grow everywhere throughout the state. The purple violet flower's meanings include love, and and remembrance.



2090

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my entire life. Both of my parents and all of my grandparents have also lived here their entire lives. My great and 2x great grandparents immigrated to Chicago from Europe. My dad's side is from the rural farm side of the state, and my mom's is from the more urban side. I attended Harper College and Illinois State University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The large 16-pointed star in the center is for the 16th president, Abraham Lincoln, since Illinois is the Land of Lincoln. The dark blue stripes on the left and right are for the Illinois River and Lake Michigan. The large white space in the center is a nod to the current Illinois flag. The red color of the star symbolizes the cardinal, the state bird. The red and blue colors are also used on the Illinois license plate and driver's license.



2091

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my entire life. Both of my parents and all of my grandparents have also lived here their entire lives. My great and 2x great grandparents immigrated to Chicago from Europe. My dad's side is from the rural farm side of the state, and my mom's is from the more urban side. I attended Harper College and Illinois State University.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Y shape symbolizes both windmills, for agriculture, and the municipal device for Chicago (which represents the splits of the Chicago River). The arrow in the center represents both Native American spears and the route of the Underground Railroad, which ran through much of Illinois. The center is also a 6-pointed star, with three points going off the edge of the flag. The stars are used in Chicago's flag. The blue represents the Illinois River. The red represents the cardinal, the state bird.

2092

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, so my connection to the state is deeply personal. Growing up, I experienced firsthand the vibrant history, culture, and landscapes that define Illinois. From the fertile plains and iconic Route 66 to the bustling city of Chicago and the serene Mississippi River, Illinois has shaped my perspective. Its rich agricultural heritage, diverse communities, and significant role in American history have always been a part of my identity.



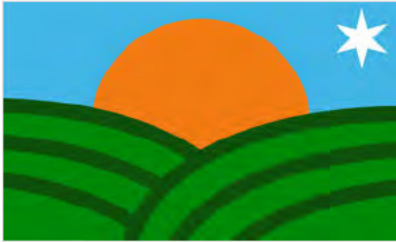
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's design is rich in symbolism, featuring a deep green background representing the state's fertile land. A white line signifies Route 66, an iconic highway central to American history. The blue area symbolizes the Mississippi River, highlighting its importance in trade and the state's development. The sun represents the sun-kissed plains, reflecting the state's agricultural heritage and growth. Together, these elements capture the state's natural resources, history, and cultural identity.

2093

Relationship to Illinois

My parents both grew up in the Chicago suburbs, and my father's parents both grew up in Illinois. I lived in Chicagoland as a child, and we often visited in the summers. I returned to Illinois to work for the Chicago Tribune in 2018, left the state briefly, but returned again (this time to Rockford) in June of 2024. I have lived all over the United States, but Illinois has been the one constant place in my life. It has always felt like a refuge to me, and it is my chosen home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I want to recognize the agricultural heritage of Illinois, while also giving a nod to its largest city. The rolling green hills reflect the landscape of our state and bring to mind nature and growth. The rising sun represents the dawn of a new era, and its orange color points to our status as a major producer of pumpkins. The blue sky and white star are from the Chicago flag, a city that has played an important role in US history, and exerts cultural and political influence over the state.

2094

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, and I've always lived here! I love it because we have big trees, and I can play outside a lot. I like visiting Chicago to see the tall buildings and the big lake. My family lives here, and we have farms and cool parks. Illinois is where my home is!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's design reflects key aspects of Illinois. A tree is featured to symbolize the state's vast woodlands and rich natural resources. The blue stripe represents Lake Michigan, which borders Chicago and plays a vital role in the state's economy and geography. The orange stripe signifies wealth and prosperity. Finally, the white triangle stands for peace and unity, symbolizing Illinois' history as a free state committed to justice and equality for all its residents.

2095

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Looking into the details of all of the other flags of the U.S. states, I noticed only a few colors and many geometric shapes. However, I realize Illinois stands out with its meaning details. I wanted to keep the idea of having details, and also wanted to incorporate the state's flower; violet. I also drew a prairie dog to illustrate the state's nickname: The Prairie State. Being the land of Lincoln, I quoted one thing Lincoln said and wrote it on the horizon. I also drew the US flag colors.



2096

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Hinsdale, IL then raised in Glen Ellyn, IL. I attended college at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for both my undergraduate and graduate degrees in engineering. Post-graduation, I have worked at companies in both Naperville and Chicago. I have been in Illinois my entire life and I love and care for this proud state. I see Illinois as a microcosm for the entire country and a new flag could be something that brings together all the diverse people of this great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The central rhombus serves as simplified geometry of the state outline. The four smaller rhombuses signify that there are distinct regions, but they are unified under one state. The flag's colors represent the flagship university of the state, but also have meaning to the state's geography. With the flatness of our land, we enjoy big open skies with beautiful orange sunsets. Blue is significant given all our waterways that make IL the center of everything and connect East to West in the US.



2097



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Hinsdale, IL and raised Glen Ellyn, IL. I attended the University of Illinois for both undergraduate and graduate studies. I have since worked in both Naperville and Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag takes the original centennial Illinois flag and makes it symmetrical with double the stars to represent that the state has been around for over 200 years now.

2098



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of the state of Illinois for 42 years, graduated Bogan High School Chicago in 2000, and I work at a prestigious steel company in Cicero for a steel manufacturing company.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bright blue background of the flag represents the sky, the green field of the flag represents the prairie grassland of Illinois, the star in the middle represents the state of Illinois as a whole symbolizing unity, the blue wave symbolizes the Illinois river, the 5 points of the star marks milestones in Illinois History, 1818 Illinois Statehood, Illinois involvement in the civil war, Illinois the first to ratify the 13th amendment, Abraham Lincoln, and the first Illinois Gov. Shadrach Bond.

2099

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in the beautiful state of Illinois since the day I was born. My dad has worked for the IDNR for 21 years, so I've spent a lot of time in parks throughout the state. In fact, I lived in a state park for 5 years! Camping is one of my favorite activities and many of our family vacations have been in the state parks. Regardless of where you live: the city, suburbs, or country, nature positively affects us all. I believe Illinois' flag should inspire all to appreciate nature.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white oak, Illinois' official state tree, represents the strength of the people of Illinois. The green background represents prosperity, vitality, and new life. The prairie represents the rich diversity of the state. This simple yet powerful flag represents many things; but most importantly, hope. As a small seed can find root and blossom into a strong, beautiful tree, so can a sliver of hope inspire us to make a difference for the betterment of our communities, state, nation, and world.



2100

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in the beautiful state of Illinois since the day I was born. My dad has worked for the IDNR for 21 years, so I've spent a lot of time in parks throughout the state. In fact, I lived in a state park for 5 years! Camping is one of my favorite activities and many of our family vacations have been in the state parks. Regardless of where you live: the city, suburbs, or country, nature positively affects us all. I believe Illinois' flag should inspire all to appreciate nature.

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2101

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, grew up in the suburbs, and now live back in the city. Illinois has always been a place where I feel connected to both urban life and nature.

Chicago's culture and history are a big part of what keeps me here, but I also appreciate the quiet and open spaces of the suburbs and rural areas. The mix of city energy and natural beauty makes Illinois feel like home. It's a place where I've built memories, found inspiration, and stayed grounded in a sense of community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features 3 stars: one for Chicago, one for Springfield, and one for other cities. The 21 points across the stars carry individual meanings and represent Illinois as the 21st state. The blue stripes symbolize the major rivers and the blue field * Lake Michigan. The diagonal flow symbolizes movement and progress. The white stripes represent unity, equality, peace, and legacy. The white field honors Native American history and the state's rural areas, uniting urban and rural identities.

2102

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, grew up in the suburbs, and now live back in the city. Illinois has always been a place where I feel connected to both urban life and nature.

Chicago's culture and history are a big part of what keeps me here, but I also appreciate the quiet and open spaces of the suburbs and rural areas. The mix of city energy and natural beauty makes Illinois feel like home. It's a place where I've built memories, found inspiration, and stayed grounded in a sense of community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features 3 stars: one for Chicago sitting on blue representing Lake Michigan, one for Springfield, and one for other cities which both sit in the vast fields. The 21 points across the stars carry individual meanings and represent Illinois as the 21st state. The blue stripes symbolize the major rivers while the white stripes represent unity, equality, peace, and legacy. The white fields honor Native American history and the state's rural areas, uniting urban and rural identities.

2103

Relationship to Illinois

I am a current resident of Illinois, and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I am currently attending the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, and plan to work in Chicago this summer.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green background represents the green fields/vegetation that make up the Prairie State. The yellow right triangle represents the corn/agriculture that fills the state today. The stripe down the middle represents one of the states many rivers, such as the Mississippi River. The six-pointed stars mirror the stars used in the iconic Chicago flag design, and there is 21 of them to represent Illinois' joining of the union as the 21st state. The blue elements use the same blue as the USA flag.

2104

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, grew up in the suburbs, and now live back in the city. Illinois has always been a place where I feel connected to both urban life and nature. Chicago's culture and history are a big part of what keeps me here, but I also appreciate the quiet and open spaces of the suburbs and rural areas. The mix of city energy and natural beauty makes Illinois feel like home. It's a place where I've built memories, found inspiration, and stayed grounded in a sense of community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features 4 stars that represent Chicago, Springfield, the rest of our cities, and the state as a whole. The 21 points across the stars carry individual meanings and represent Illinois as the 21st state. Four blue stripes symbolize the major rivers, and a thicker stripe represents Lake Michigan. The white stripes represent unity, equality, peace, and legacy. The white field honors Native American history and the state's rural areas, uniting urban and rural identities.

2105



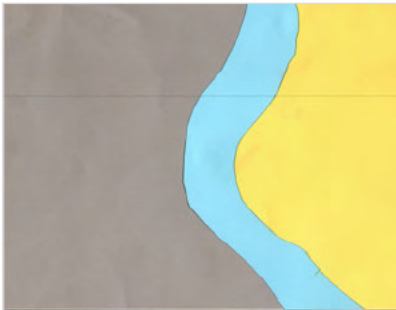
Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of the state of Illinois for 42 years, graduated Bogan High School Chicago in 2000, and I work at a prestigious steel company in Cicero for a steel manufacturing company.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bright blue background of the flag symbolizes the sky, the green field stands for the prairie land of Illinois, the blue wave stands for the Illinois river, and the sunrise symbolizes hope.

2106



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, and I've lived my entire life in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow is a vague outline of Illinois, and the yellow symbolizes corn, because Illinois has a lot of corn, and also prairies. The blue is a representation of the Mississippi River. The gray is for Chicago and other cities.

2107



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I've lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The middle design is corn because Illinois has a lot of corn, and it's yellow because corn is yellow. The white is for peace. The white on the left side is for the buildings of Chicago and the white on the right side is a vague L for Lincoln. The blue is for the skies.

2108



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I've lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue shape in the middle of the flag is representing the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The orange part of the flag is to represent prairies. The yellow at the top right is a representation of corn and sunshine. And the yellow on the bottom is in a shape of an L for Lincoln. The gray is for the buildings of Chicago.

2109



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Cook County, as were both of my parents and three of my four grandparents. After spending seven years living in various states and countries during my time in the Air Force and attending college, I have returned with a renewed appreciation for my home state. It would be a privilege and an honor to design the new state flag, celebrating Illinois' rich heritage and future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The state seal is on the left and a red, six-pointed star, from Chicago's flag, is on the right symbolizing the state's connection to its largest city. The blue sections represent two major bodies of water that define the state: Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The red represents bloodshed and serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made and lessons learned throughout our history. The white stripe above it signifies peace, while the one below stands for progress.

2110

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Cook County, as were both of my parents and 3 of my 4 grandparents. After spending 7 years living in various states and countries during my time in the Air Force and attending college afterwards, I have returned with a renewed appreciation for my home state. It would be a privilege and an honor to design the new state flag, celebrating Illinois' rich heritage and future.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

At the center of the flag is a modified version of the state seal. Below it, the state's slogan, "LAND OF LINCOLN," is displayed in bold white letters. The flag is divided horizontally, with the upper half in light blue representing Lake Michigan and the lower half in dark blue symbolizing the Mississippi River. To the left of the seal is a silhouette of a barn and silo, while Chicago's skyline is on the right, reflecting the diversity of Illinois' population and the importance of agriculture.

2111

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Cook County, as were both of my parents and three of my four grandparents. After spending seven years living in various states and countries during my time in the Air Force and attending college, I have returned with a renewed appreciation for my home state. It would be a privilege and an honor to design the new state flag, celebrating Illinois' rich heritage and future.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The center of the flag features the state seal, positioned over a red star from Chicago's flag to symbolize the state's largest city. Behind the seal is a white oval, representing peace and progress. The blue background symbolizes Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and other bodies of water throughout Illinois.

2112

Relationship to Illinois

I lived in St. Louis, MO from birth to 28. August 1, 1998 I moved to Chicago for 13 years. I taught in Illinois, including several years for the Chicago Board of Education inside the Cook County Jail. I was on the CTA all that time and worked transitions with students released from incarceration. I graduated from Chicago Theological Seminary, and have been called to the Border for my ministry since 2019. I have adopted Chicago as my hometown. I miss it. I will move back to Illinois in 2025.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

White Oak (State Tree) could be green or grey but I think the white is unique. Yellow, the sun (hope, future) and grains that grow in the Prairie State. Green the woods, grasses (Big Bluestem state prairie grass), and agriculture. The Blue stripe represents rivers and streams. The blue dipped semicircle symbolizes lakes, including Lake Michigan.

2113

Relationship to Illinois

I lived in St. Louis, MO from birth to 28. August 1, 1998 I moved to Chicago for 13 years. I taught in Illinois, including several years for the Chicago Board of Education inside the Cook County Jail. I was on the CTA all that time and worked transitions with students released from incarceration. I graduated from Chicago Theological Seminary, and have been called to the Border for my ministry since 2019. I have adopted Chicago as my hometown. I miss it. I will move back to Illinois in 2025.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I call this intersections. it is the simplified version of one that had more stripes coming from the midpoint in perspective to represent these. Yellow, the sun (hope, future) and grains that grow in the Prairie State. Green the woods, grasses (Big Bluestem state prairie grass), and agriculture. The Blue stripe represents rivers and streams. The blue dipped semicircle symbolizes lakes, including Lake Michigan. The charcoal grey represents industry, highways, railroads and indigenous trails.

2114

Relationship to Illinois

I lived in St. Louis, MO from birth to 28. August 1, 1998 I moved to Chicago for 13 years. I taught in Illinois, including several years for the Chicago Board of Education inside the Cook County Jail. I was on the CTA all that time and worked transitions with students released from incarceration. I graduated from Chicago Theological Seminary, and have been called to the Border for my ministry since 2019. I have adopted Chicago as my hometown. I miss it. I will move back to Illinois in 2025.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think the 4 colors better represent the diversity of Illinois. Yellow, the sun (hope, future) and grains that grow in the Prairie State. Green, the woods, grasses (Big Bluestem state prairie grass), and agriculture. The Blue stripe represents rivers and streams. The blue dipped semicircle symbolizes lakes, including Lake Michigan. The charcoal grey represents industry, highways, railroads and indigenous trails, coal and other ores etc. I wanted to represent the whole state.

2115

Relationship to Illinois

I am a thoroughbred Illinois resident, born and raised. Living in the northern suburbs, I've been lucky enough to experience the vast spectrum of lifestyles that Illinois has to offer: from working in downtown O'Hare, to spending my weekends tending my Christmas tree farm in Kirkland. I feel I am uniquely qualified to capture Illinois in all its beauty, and create a flag to represent it.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe represents the Illinois River, and how Illinois' waterways have been crucial to shape the identity of the state. The two parallel white stripes represent Route 66, and Illinois's unique role in connecting America. The rounded purple star in the center represents a Violet, Illinois's state flower. This flower is broken further down into three sections, purple, blue, and white, representing Illinois's Agriculture, Community and Industry respectively.

2116

Relationship to Illinois

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2117

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe represents the Illinois River. The blue outline represents the various waterways that shape Illinois's iconic silhouette. The two parallel white stripes represent Route 66, and Illinois's unique role in connecting America. The rounded purple star in the center represents a Violet, Illinois's state flower. This flower is broken further down into three sections, purple, blue, and white, representing Illinois's Agriculture.

2118

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Crystal Lake, Illinois, and attended Crystal Lake South High School. After graduating, I pursued my studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Following college, I secured a job in Wheaton and settled in Elgin, where I currently reside. My deep love for Illinois inspired me to design a flag that the entire state can be proud of.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design features the silhouette of the white-tailed deer, Illinois' state animal. Its outline mirrors key geography: the left side follows the Mississippi River while its legs mirror the eastern border. White stripes represent key rivers. Ten antler points symbolize the state's economic districts. Three six-pointed stars honor Chicago's flag and represent urban, suburban, and rural areas, with colors reflecting Lake Michigan, prairies, and the glaciers that formed Illinois' plains.

2119

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Crystal Lake, Illinois, and attended Crystal Lake South High School. After graduating, I pursued my studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Following college, I secured a job in Wheaton and settled in Elgin, where I currently reside. My deep love for Illinois inspired me to design a flag that the entire state can be proud of.



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2120

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Crystal Lake, Illinois, and attended Crystal Lake South High School. After graduating, I pursued my studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Following college, I secured a job in Wheaton and settled in Elgin, where I currently reside. My deep love for Illinois inspired me to design a flag that the entire state can be proud of.



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2121

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Rockford, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included the state bird, state flower, and state grass. I added thirteen stars to represent the first thirteen states, similar to the original flag.



2122

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I currently attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The symbol in the middle is designed to be reminiscent of Cahokia/Mississippian imagery commonly found on pottery and engravings. The blue waves represent the many rivers which can be found in Illinois, and the yellow background represents the state's plentiful agriculture, which is fed by the rivers.



2123

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois over a decade ago to pursue a design career and have called it home ever since. There is a sense of creativity, taste, and humility here I've never experienced anywhere else and I'm proud to be an Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This concept depicts an eagle borrowing the Prairie style, an architectural and arts movement that originated in Illinois. It's a different take on the Prairie State. The eagle is in flight, representing freedom and progress. A single star above it represents Illinois as part of the union. A four-piece red banner is a nod to our current flag and state motto: "State Sovereignty, National Union".



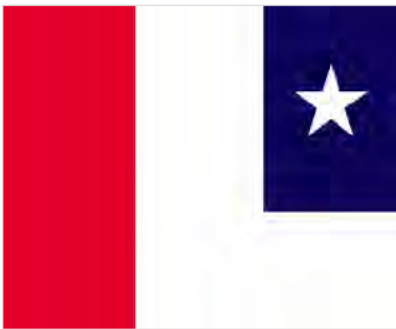
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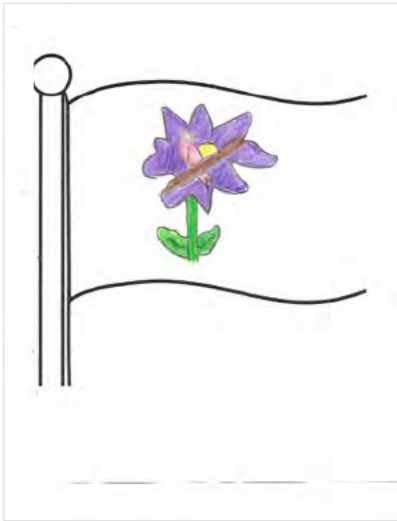
Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois over a decade ago to pursue a design career and have called it home ever since. There is a sense of creativity, taste, and humility here I've never experienced anywhere else and I'm proud to be an Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This simple, vertical triband flag truncates the blue stripe to spell out the abbreviation of the state (IL). Red represents resilience. Illinois is not a land without hardships. From the Great Chicago Fire to the economics of the Rust Belt, we know a thing or two about persevering. White represents freedom, as the Land of Lincoln we stood firmly for abolition and remain a bastion of civil rights to this day. Blue represents Lake Michigan and the great rivers of Illinois.





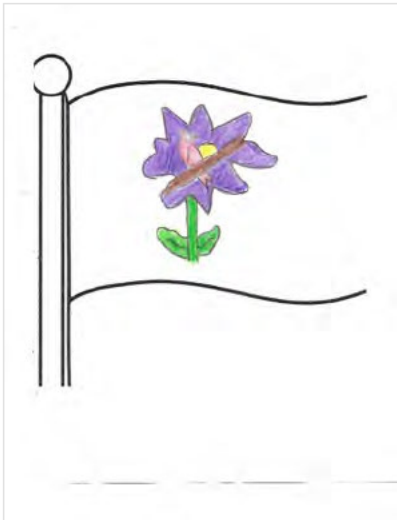
2125

Relationship to Illinois

I am submitting this on behalf of my daughter who is 12. We live in Chicago, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is about the famous animals and flowers that are found in Illinois. My flag includes the violet and northern cardinal. These are the most common flowers and animals that are found in Illinois. For the violet, I chose the blue violet. The blue violet was Illinois' first pick and Illinois was the first of four states to choose the violet as their flower. The male northern cardinal has bright red feathers with a black patch of feathers at the base of the red bill



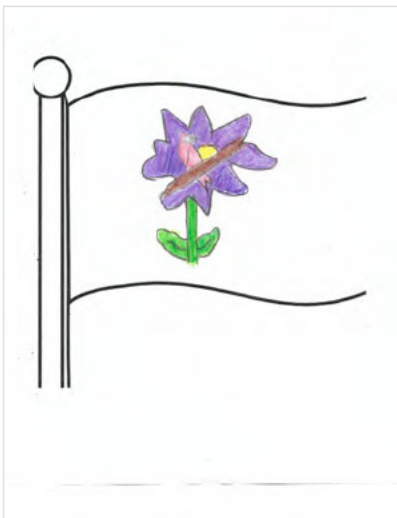
2126

Relationship to Illinois

I am submitting this on behalf of my daughter, we live in Chicago, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is about the famous animals and flowers that are found in Illinois. My flag includes the violet and northern cardinal. These are the most common flowers and animals that are in Illinois. For the violet, I chose the blue violet. The blue violet was Illinois' first pick as the state flower and Illinois was the first of four states to choose the violet. The male northern cardinal has bright red feathers with a black patch of feathers at the base of their red bill.



2127

Relationship to Illinois

I am submitting this on behalf of my daughter, we live in Chicago, IL.

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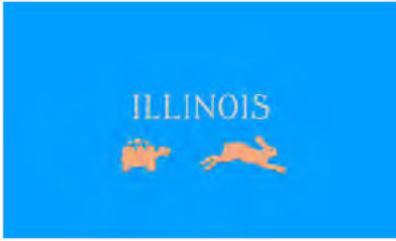
2128

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Ottawa and graduated from Illinois State University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Eastern cottontail rabbit is present in every Illinois county: urban, suburban, and rural. The painted turtle is the official state reptile, and Illinois is a major habitat of the Western painted turtle. In the fable by Aesop, a slave in ancient Greece, the hare and tortoise demonstrate the quintessential Midwestern qualities of ability and perseverance. On the flag, the rabbit represents momentum while the turtle speaks to the benefits of the slower-moving rural life.



2129

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, born and raised in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs. I am currently enjoying my retirement in Palatine.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design depicts the most significant historical figure in Illinois history, Abraham Lincoln, ringed by a circle of 21 stars, representing Illinois as the 21st state in the union. The Lincoln figure is bold as he looks directly at the observer. The flag field is vibrant orange.



2130

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, born in Chicago and raised in Glen Ellyn. I am currently enjoying my retirement in lovely Palatine.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design is bold, simple and graphic and is meant to represent Illinois's historical legacy of both agriculture and industry. The type in the center announces the establishment date of Illinois. The kernels on the grain stalk number 21, to symbolize Illinois as the 21st state.



2131

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. Born, raised, worked and now retired in Illinois in Woodridge. Proud of my state and all its people and places. My father was a history buff and Civil War reenactor from Rockford who was also proud to teach me about...and take me throughout Illinois...when I was young. NOTE: This work was co-created by a designer friend and another lifelong Illinois resident, Vance Allen of Palatine.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Simple logo graphic over the USA's color Blue representing what we believe are the 3 most important elements to be graphically represented for the state of Illinois. The state shape, the Lincoln image and the 21 stars representing Illinois as the 21st state admitted to the Union. ADDED NOTE: This graphic would also make a great simple logo/seal for official State of Illinois materials/merchandise--hats, t-shirts, hoodies, stationary, etc.

2132

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. Born, raised, worked and now retired in Illinois in Woodridge. Proud of my state and all its people and places. My father was a history buff and Civil War reenactor from Rockford who was also proud to teach me about...and take me throughout Illinois...when I was young. NOTE: This work was co-created by a designer friend and another lifelong Illinois resident, Vance Allen of Palatine.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Simple logo graphic with added text of ILLINOIS closely related to the ILLINOIS text on the current flag. Over USA's color Blue representing what we believe are the 3 most important elements to be graphically represented for the state of Illinois. The state shape, the Lincoln image and the 21 stars representing Illinois as the 21st state admitted to the Union.

2133

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. Born, raised, worked and now retired in Illinois in Woodridge. Proud of my state and all its people and places. My father was a history buff and Civil War reenactor from Rockford who was also proud to teach me about...and take me throughout Illinois...when I was young. NOTE: This work was co-created by a designer friend and another lifelong Illinois resident, Vance Allen of Palatine.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A simple graphic take on the topographic features that make the state of Illinois so diverse and interesting. The Chicago skyline, Lake Michigan and the prairie. With the ILLINOIS text and the state slogan also represented, it's an overall striking and impactful visual image on the USA color Blue background.

2134

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago about 7 years ago. In the course of being here I found a wonderful job, a wonderful art community, a little bit of fame, and the love of my life. I couldn't think of any other place to live but here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

To start the center represents the city of Chicago with its beautiful skyline. The green represents the open field of Illinois. The yellow represents the corn fields often seen in the midwest.



2135

Relationship to Illinois

I am resident of Illinois and have lived here for 15 out of the 17 years of my life. My mother, who is submitting these flag designs on my behalf, has lived in Illinois her whole life.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission #1: The two golden stripes represent the importance of agriculture to the state of Illinois. They also represent the rural communities of Illinois. The two violet stripes, which take their color from Illinois's state flower (the violet), represent the suburban communities of Illinois. The golden star in the center of the flag represents Chicago, the urban heart of our state.

2136

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois and have lived here for 15 out of the 17 years I have been alive. My mother, who is submitting these flag designs on my behalf, has lived in Illinois her whole life.

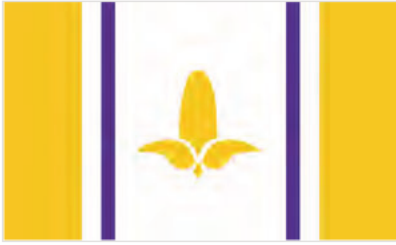


Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission #2: The golden stripes represent agriculture and its importance to the state of Illinois. The blue stripe on the left represents the Mississippi River (which is to the West) and the right stripe represents Lake Michigan (which is to the East). The golden star in the center of the flag represents the unity of the rural, suburban, and urban communities of Illinois.

2137

Relationship to Illinois



I am a resident of Illinois and have lived here for 15 out of the 17 years I have been alive. My mother, who is submitting these flag designs on my behalf, has lived in Illinois her whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents the importance of agriculture, specifically corn, to the state of Illinois. Not only is corn a staple crop of Illinois, but it is also a symbol of hard work and stability. It also represents the unity between the rural, suburban, and urban communities as corn makes its way from the farm to the table all across the state.

2138

Relationship to Illinois



I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have a bird and butterfly to represent the beautiful animals that live here. I have people to represent the people of Illinois. I have a flower to represent the farmers. I have a heart to represent love. I have friendship bracelets to represent friends. I have a peace sign to represent peace.

2139

Relationship to Illinois



I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have a butterfly for my state symbol. I have a bird to represent the animals. I have flowers to show that you can see flowers all around Illinois. I have a peace sign to represent the peace in Illinois.

2140

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a designer born in St. Charles, Illinois, who has spent my life and career in Illinois. I graduated from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and have over 30 years of design experience in the Chicagoland area. I currently live in Sycamore, Illinois with my wife and have three amazing daughters that reside in this great state as well.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This 21-point Sun design draws from Illini tribal art, with the sun symbolizing life, warmth, growth, and renewal*values relevant now and for the future. The 21 rays represent our 21st state, while the blue fields stand for Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The sun's circles and rays emanating from the core also symbolize commerce, transportation & innovation, reflecting Illinois' role as a hub across the United States.

2141

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago about 7 years ago. In the course of being here I found a wonderful job, a wonderful art community, a little bit of fame, and the love of my life. I couldn't think of any other place to live but here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

To start the center represents the city of Chicago with its beautiful skyline. The green represents the open field of Illinois. The yellow represents the corn fields often seen in the midwest.



2142

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a designer born in St. Charles, Illinois, who has spent my life and career in Illinois. I graduated from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and have over 30 years of design experience in the Chicagoland area. I currently live in Sycamore, Illinois with my wife and have three amazing daughters that reside in this great state as well.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Tree of Life flag design draws from Celtic and other traditions to symbolize all life*past and present*our interconnectedness, and growth. It represents universal concepts that unite generations across our great state. The design retains the same space and color palette as the current flag's emblem, paying homage. And the tree's canopy doubles as the sky, subtly featuring Orion, a key constellation that spark storytelling and aspirations for our future.

2143

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design highlights Abraham Lincoln's significance to Illinois. His formative years as a lawyer and politician in our state laid the groundwork for his leadership during the Civil War and the abolition of slavery. From his humble beginnings to becoming an iconic president, Lincoln's legacy and final resting place in the "Land of Lincoln," remains a lasting source of pride that we should fully embrace.

2144

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois includes being born in Illinois and living there my entire life so far, my parents being born in Illinois and living here their entire lives and even all of my grandparents were born here and have lived here until they retired and moved to different states. Illinois has just always been the home to myself, to my family and to my friends.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Meaning includes:-A Sun: Reminiscences to the old flag and its meaning of Illinois having a bright future ahead, 21 rays of sun to represent its statehood (21st state in U.S.)- Plains/Hills: Shows the geography and landscapes of Illinois-Water: Symbolize the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan which also shows the geography of Illinois-Prairie Grass: Shows the nickname of the state, "The Prairie State", landscapes/wildlife of Illinois, illustration of the state prairie grass, Big Bluestem

2145

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago. Went to grammar school and High school in Chicago. Then on to the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana. After 4 years, I spent 3 years in U.S. Navy. I worked for several companies in Chicago. I spent 21 years in the Illinois Naval Reserve mainly at the (long gone) Naval Armory at the lake front. I lived in Chicago, Oak Park, & Springfield (16 years). In May 2024, I had to move to Milwaukee for medical reasons and to be closer to my children.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue vertical bars on each side of the central circle are symbolic of the water bordering Illinois: Mississippi & Ohio plus tip of Lake Michigan (for recreation and commerce.) Center cornucopia of firsts: * The Illiniwek Tribe. * Abraham Lincoln. * The world's first skyscraper. * Steel plow by John Deere (turn prairie to farmland.) * Stalk of corn (Illinois was second in the nation for corn production)



2146

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red and black signals the color of the cardinal, which is the state bird.



2147

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cardinal is the state bird. The building is the capitol building in Springfield. The tree is the state tree.



2148

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used a cardinal and a violet because they are the state's bird and flower. The black and white means day and night.



2149

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think you should choose my flag because first it isn't very many colors, so it is easy to see. Secondly people can tell that it's Illinois because it has an I in the middle. Finally, the blue represents Lake Michigan because it is such a big lake. Also, that's why you should choose my flag.

2150



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green color represents the land and the blue represents the water. The corn represents the fact that Illinois is part of the great corn belt. Lastly there is a peace sign because Illinois has peace.

2151



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The ferris wheel represents the world's fair. This was important because it showcased new inventions and technology. That led to people knowing Chicago was a safe great city to live in. The color blue represents the lake. I picked the color orange to represent the Great Chicago Fire. The great Chicago Fire destroyed a lot of buildings, but it also led to great new things. I picked the color yellow to represent corn, Illinois is the second largest producer of corn in the United States.

2152



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The black represents Abraham Lincoln. The green tells us we are the prairie state. The two yellow stars represent the cities of Springfield and Chicago.

2153



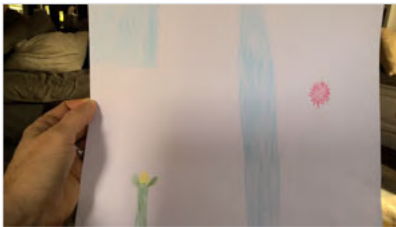
Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cardinal is the state bird. I chose three simple colors to keep the flag neat and simple.

2154



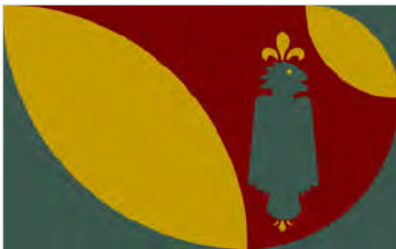
Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue square represents Lake Michigan. The corn tells people we are part of the great corn belt. The blue line represents the Illinois River. The 16 point star represents Abraham Lincoln, who was the 16th president of the United State. It is red to remind us of the Chicago Fire.

2155



Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinoisan with a passion for architecture, engineering, and design. I have been marveling at Illinois' varied architectural riches from rural farmhouses to the skyscrapers of Chicago all my life. My mind is always wandering and pondering how things work. A flag is meant to be symbolic of the place it represents. The Illinois flag deserves an upgrade to reflect the state's diversity, history, and progress from frontier state to one of cultural, economic and political importance.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bird design is from a copper plate discovered at a local Mississippian culture site. The yellow crown/tail are a broken fleur-de-lis symbolizing early French influence (and the Lincoln city coat of arms).- The flag contains a Fibonacci spiral, with the bird's eye at the spiral's focal point. Outer regions represent bodies of water
* Lake Michigan, the Mississippi, and the Ohio / Wabash Rivers.- The red and yellow regions are the three geographic divisions (N/C/S) and the sun and corn.

2156

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinoisan with a passion for architecture, engineering, and design. I have been marveling at Illinois' varied architectural riches from rural farmhouses to the skyscrapers of Chicago all my life. My mind is always wandering and pondering how things work. A flag is meant to be symbolic of the place it represents. The Illinois flag deserves an upgrade to reflect the state's diversity, history, and progress from frontier state to one of cultural, economic and political importance.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The fleur-de-lis' are reflective of early French influence in Illinois (and appears on Lincoln city's coat of arms). Each of the 3 is made up of 7 sections for a total of 21 (statehood #), for the 3 Illinoisan presidents and 3 important regional urban areas.- Blue regions represent Lake Michigan (right) and the Mississippi River (left)- Gray and red regions represent the 3 geographical divisions of Illinois (northern / central / southern). The parallel dark lines also symbolize railroads



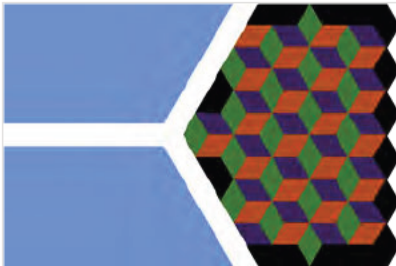
2157

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinoisan with a passion for architecture, engineering, and design. I have been marveling at Illinois' varied architectural riches from rural farmhouses to the skyscrapers of Chicago all my life. My mind is always wandering and pondering how things work. A flag is meant to be symbolic of the place it represents. The Illinois flag deserves an upgrade to reflect the state's diversity, history, and progress from frontier state to one of cultural, economic and political importance.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I call this design Bold Illinois.- Two blue regions represent Lake Michigan (top) and the Mississippi River (bottom)- White Y-shape symbolizes peace/harmony, reminiscent of Chicago municipal symbol- The diamond pattern consists vertical green cornfields, orange pumpkins, and purple Indian corn. The black background is for fertile soil and coal. The outline of this shape is diagrammatic of Illinois, and there are 21 of each diamond (statehood #). The flag edge follows the diamond pattern



2158



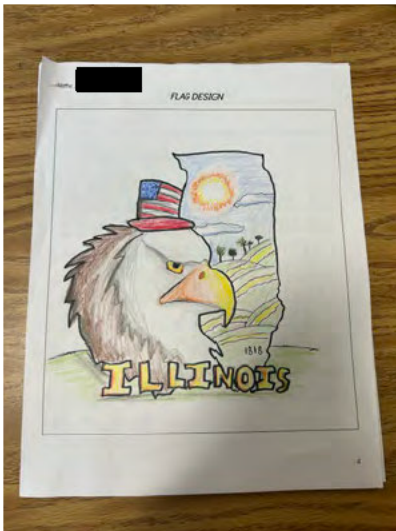
Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this fall.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The black line represents Abraham Lincoln. The arrowheads represent problems Illinois has faced such as the Chicago Fire, pollution, and the Great Depression. This picture altogether represents how Illinois always gets back up.

2159



Relationship to Illinois

I am connected to Illinois because I live here in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On this flag I included an eagle because it represents the U.S.A. Also, I drew the state of Illinois with a field inside because Illinois has a lot of flat land. Lastly, I put the date 1818 because that's when Illinois became a state. I am sure you should choose this flag because it captures a lot about Illinois.

2160

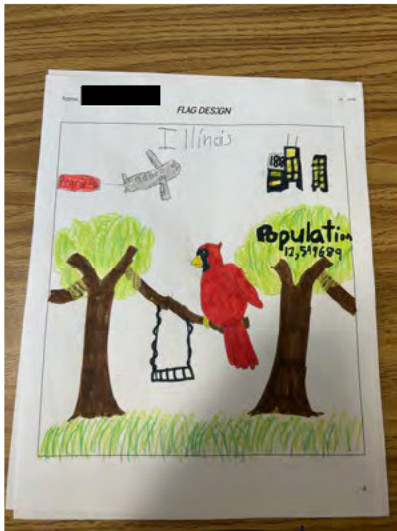


Relationship to Illinois

I am connected to Illinois because I am a fourth grader that lives in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Do you want to know about my flag design? In my flag I drew squirrels because there's a lot of squirrels in the Illinois. You should choose my flag because I think my flag is unique and understandable. I hope you liked my information.



2161

Relationship to Illinois

I am connected to Illinois because I live there, I also was born there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included a northern cardinal because that is the state bird, grass and trees because there is a lot of flat land, the population, a sign that says "Prairie State," a swing for all the children, and buildings for cities. I think Illinois should choose my design because I included a lot of detail and it all represents Illinois.



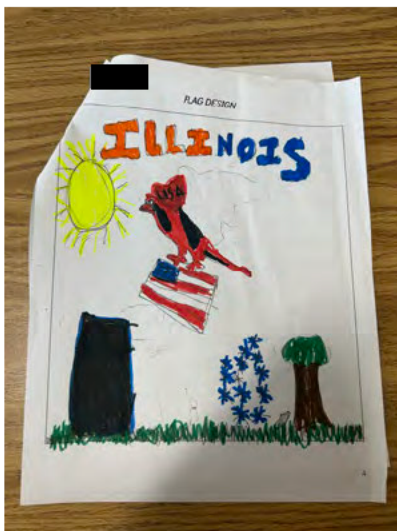
2162

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included flowers, weather, cities, and the plains. I represented Illinois by showing the flowers, weather, plains, and cities. You should choose me because I put a lot of hard work into it and it represents Illinois.



2163

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a fourth grader in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I connected it because I did the state bird, and the Illinois college colors and the words. I think it represents the state because I added the college colors and the buildings. It represents every season, and the city, and the state bird, and has the college colors. And that's why I think it should be the next flag.



2164

Relationship to Illinois

I am connected to Illinois because I was born here and I go to school here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my design I included the population to represent how many people live here. Also, I included grass to represent Illinois being the prairie state. I included violet flowers, trees, and a monarch butterfly to represent some state symbols. I included the dates 1818 and 1868 to represent the year Illinois became a state and when Illinois was redesigned. Also, I included clouds and a sun to represent that Illinois has colder weather and warmer weather. Also, I included the Illinois capitol.

2165

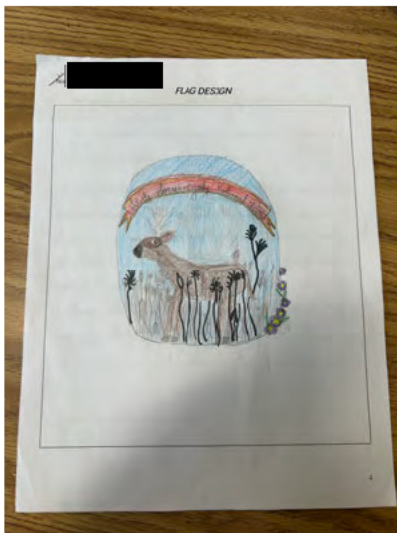
Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my proud home. When I first arrived in Chicago, its beauty and architecture mesmerized me. After living in Florida, I returned for the culture and hardworking people. I love exploring parks like Starved Rock and became a U.S. citizen here, deepening my connection. Now living in Evanston, I'm inspired by Illinois' history and charm and have no plans to leave. It's a state where hard work leads to success, and that's why I love it.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag symbolizes a road between Illinois' iconic cornfields, reflecting its agricultural heritage. The green fields represent fertile land and growth, while yellow stands for the golden corn harvest. Blue symbolizes the sky and Illinois' vital waterways like Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river. The road signifies Illinois as a crossroads, a place of progress and opportunity. The star-like shape in the center embodies unity and the state's role as a guiding light in the nation's heartland.



2166

Relationship to Illinois

I am connected to Illinois because I live and go to school in Glencoe.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included a white-tailed deer because it is the state animal. I also added the state motto because that felt important to me. Illinois should choose my design because I put so much detail into it and it represents the whole state. This is why you should choose my flag.



2167

Relationship to Illinois

I live here, and I met all of my best friends and friends here. And Illinois is where my family lives.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included an eagle because that is one of the main birds in Illinois, the state quote which is state sovereignty national union, and I added the USA flag because Illinois is in the USA. You should choose my flag because isn't standing out good? Please choose my flag.



2168

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has Abraham Lincoln, a president who was born in Illinois. Then I have the state motto: State Sovereignty, National Union. I also have the bald eagle and the state shield.



2169

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my homestate. I've lived in the same house in Skokie since I was one.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag takes inspiration from the Illinois centennial flag and Chicago flag. There are twenty-one stars for Illinois being the twenty-first state. The largest one represents Illinois. The blues represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River.



2170

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home state. I've lived in the same house in Skokie since I was one.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag takes inspiration from the Illinois centennial flag and Chicago flag. The shades of blue come from those two flags. There are twenty-one stars for Illinois being the twenty-first state. The largest one in the center represents Illinois. The blues represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The chevron on the left specifically represents the Mississippi River. It is somewhat an imitation of Illinois's western border.



2171

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my homestate. I've lived at the same house in Skokie since I was one.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag takes inspiration from the Illinois centennial flag and Chicago flag. The shade of blue comes from the centennial flag. There are twenty-one stars for Illinois being the twenty-first state. The largest one in the center represents Illinois. The blue represents the Mississippi River.

2172



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I currently attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The symbol in the middle is designed to be reminiscent of Cahokia/Mississippian imagery commonly found on pottery and engravings. The blue waves represent the many rivers which can be found in Illinois, and the yellow background represents the state's plentiful agriculture, which is fed by the rivers.

2173



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in northern IL. Spent a few years out of state, but most (38 out of 43) spent here. I'm raising a family here as well.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green- forms the shape of a capital "I" for Illinois, in a shade of green to represent prairie land. Blue- represents our critical bodies of water- Lake Michigan, Mississippi River, Illinois River etc. Yellow- represents our great prime farm ground used to primarily grow corn (golden color) and beans. Black- one triangle represents Abe Lincoln's famous hat and jacket. Second triangle represents the glass and steel and industry that sprouted up in the major IL cities such as Chicago.

2174



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Belleville Illinois and have spent most of my early years here with my family and just recently moved back

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists of a star representing Springfield with the North point being bigger due to the state being part of the northwestern territory and later the Illinois territory. The blue is the Mississippi River and its flow relative to the state

2175

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Springfield, IL my entire life. We pride ourselves of the ambiguous man who changed the course of American history, and would be nicknamed the soul of America. My father was born and raised in Illinois, his father the same* and so on until my four times great grandfather, a Prussian immigrant farmer named Jacob King, who immigrated to Murphysboro, IL. On Aug 26th, 1861* at the age of 20, he would volunteer in the 27th Illinois US Infantry, and fight to preserve our Union.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Consider this submission the correct version for my #1860 submission. It had the incorrect File. The red star symbolizes Chicago. This star represents the State of Illinois, and the band represents the Union of these United States. The star is placed on the left side to signify the heart of a nation. Dark blue represents the Union uniform color. Light blue represents the Illinois River. The innermost blue represents Lake Michigan.



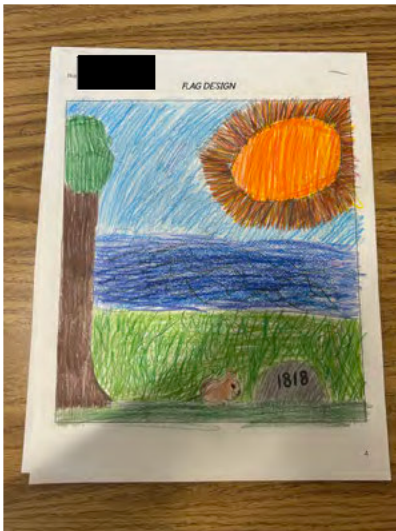
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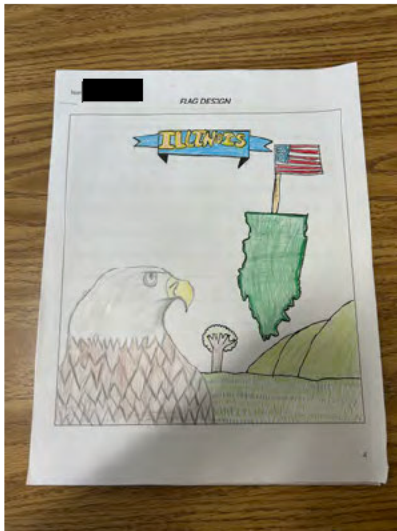
Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The little animal is a chipmunk because they are very common in Illinois. There is a lot of grass and flat land in Illinois, so I put a lot of grass and flat land. I think you should choose mine because I put an animal that's in Illinois and that animal is very common. Also, I put a lot of grass and flat land to represent Illinois.





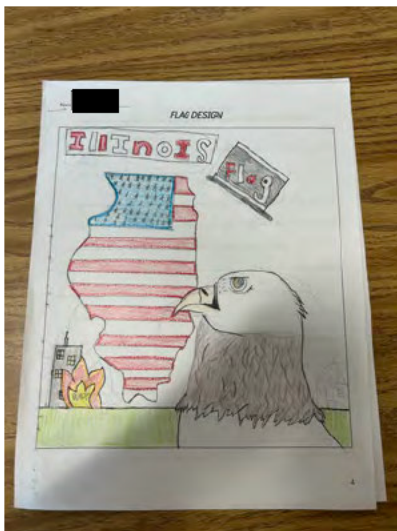
2177

Relationship to Illinois

I am connected to Illinois because I was born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included an eagle because it has been the national bird of the United States since 1782. My flag should be chosen because my eagle has a lot of detail.



2178

Relationship to Illinois

I am connected to Illinois because I was born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included a bald eagle because I think the eagle represents freedom. I decided to put in the fire flame for the Great Chicago Fire. I think you should choose my flag because I tried to make this flag perfect for Illinois.



2179

Relationship to Illinois

I am re-submitting this design to replace my previous entry (image ID 1595) if possible. This one is a tighter design in various ways. Thank you for your patience. If this is not possible, I will understand.

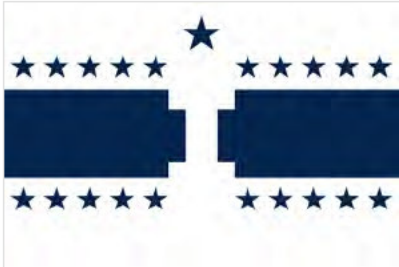
Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is "Illinois Free" flag, with the year of statehood 1818 not so hidden in the tail feathers. This design harkens to an indigenous style suggesting Illinois' beginnings long predates 1818.

2180

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago's South Side and have lived most of my life in the state of Illinois. I consider myself to be a proud Illinoisan, and have a strong attachment to the history and people of Illinois, including childhood visits to Illinois' historic sites such as the Cahokia Mounds and the Lincoln Presidential Museum. Though my parents are immigrants to the United States, they chose Illinois as the state to build their new American life and for that I am extremely grateful.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars indicate Illinois' place as the 21 state. The 21st star takes a place of prominence in the center top of the design. At the center of the design, the negative white space in the blue strip forms the shape of the letter "I", which stands for Illinois. The white field resembles the current flag design of Illinois, and the white and blue stripes pay homage to the 1918 Illinois Centennial Flag design by acclaimed designer Wallace Rice. The blue color is the same as the American flag.

2181

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago's South Side and have lived most of my life in the state of Illinois. I consider myself to be a proud Illinoisan, and have a strong attachment to the history and people of Illinois, including childhood visits to Illinois' historic sites such as the Cahokia Mounds and the Lincoln Presidential Museum. Though my parents are immigrants to the United States, they chose Illinois as the state to build their new American life and for that I am extremely grateful.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design is based on 18th-century geometric hide paintings made by the Illinois Confederation. It is a way to pay tribute to the native peoples of Illinois and to honor the culture after which Illinois is named. The original painting is currently on display at the Mus*e du Quai Branly in Paris. Illinois was originally the land of the Illinois Confederation, so the colors and design try to incorporate the spirit of the original artwork, which are some of the oldest existing art from Illinois.

2182

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago's South Side and have lived most of my life in the state of Illinois. I consider myself to be a proud Illinoisan, and have a strong attachment to the history and people of Illinois, including childhood visits to Illinois' historic sites such as the Cahokia Mounds and the Lincoln Presidential Museum. Though my parents are immigrants to the United States, they chose Illinois as the state to build their new American life and for that I am extremely grateful.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design is based on 18th-century geometric hide paintings made by the Illinois Confederation. It is a way to pay tribute to the native peoples of Illinois and to honor the culture after which Illinois is named. The original painting is currently on display at the Mus*e du Quai Branly in Paris. Illinois was originally the land of the Illinois Confederation, so the colors and design try to incorporate the spirit of the original artworks, which are some of the oldest existing art from Illinois.

2183

Relationship to Illinois

I currently live in Rockford, IL. I am an 3rd year public, elementary art teacher for Genoa Kingston community unit school district 424. I went to school at north central, rock valley college, and Rockford University. I am a first generation college graduate.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

We are not just diamonds in Illinois. We are 14k gold. We outshine the rest of the country. The rope in my flag represents tying us together as citizens. Nature, rivers, and parks brings a love to hiking every weekend. The Windy City brings us the bean, and all the smiles that come with it. My home brings us the red symbol. Cardinals fly over keeping an eye on all of us bringing its 14k gold beauty. With all of this the sun continues to rise and set bring with it more of our golden shine.

2184



Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the wave represents the Great Lake, the blue rectangle above represents the sky, the green rectangle at the bottom represents the grass, the 20 stars represents the 20 states that came before Illinois, the star in the middle that represents the state of Illinois.

2185



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Evanston in September 2005 to attend Northwestern University, and to Chicago after graduating in 2009. I've lived here ever since (apart from the year spanning June 2014 to July 2015, which I spent in Iowa). My husband and I married here last October. Additionally, quite a bit of my extended family is from Illinois, including a great-uncle who spent a distinguished career as a professor at NIU in DeKalb. My husband's father completed his Ph.D at the University of Illinois.

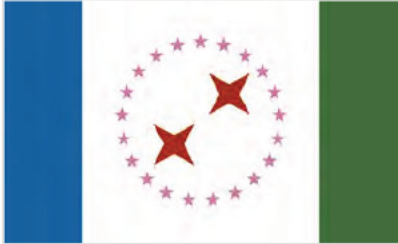
Explain the meaning behind your flag

A vertical tricolor, blue (lakes/waterways), white (possibility), and green (prairies/agriculture). Charge: A stylized milkweed flower, pink (contributions of women/LGBTQ+ people and the uniqueness of all Illinoisans), with 21 petals (statehood); two monarch butterflies. iron red (railroads and industry), each with four points (Indigenous people, the Great Migration, Hispanic/Latin* people, all immigrants/refugees; farmers, laborers, knowledge/creative workers, entrepreneurs).

2186

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Evanston in September 2005 to attend Northwestern University, and to Chicago after graduating in 2009. I've lived here ever since (apart from the year spanning June 2014 to July 2015, which I spent in Iowa). My husband and I married here last October. Additionally, quite a bit of my extended family is from Illinois, including a great-uncle who spent a distinguished career as a professor at NIU in DeKalb. My husband's father completed his Ph.D at the University of Illinois.



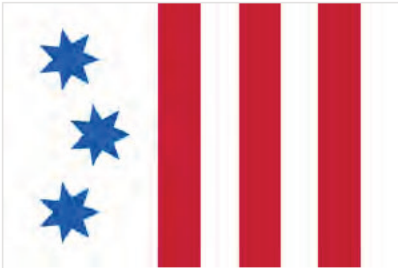
Explain the meaning behind your flag

A vertical tricolor, blue (lakes/waterways), white (possibility), and green (prairies/agriculture). Charge: A "milkweed flower" of 21 stars (statehood/unity), pink (contributions of women and LGBTQ+ people, as well as the uniqueness of all Illinoisans); two monarch butterflies. iron red (railroads and industry), each with four points (Indigenous people, the Great Migration, Hispanic/Latin* people, all immigrants and refugees; farmers, laborers, knowledge/creative workers, entrepreneurs).

2187

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has always been home. Winters and all, this is my favorite place in the country. The landscape is beautiful and tough and versatile, and the people raised upon it are the same. Cities of broad shoulders, fields of calloused hands, prairies of simpler times, Illinois is a melting pot of America's best qualities in one place. This is where my heart is.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue three 7-pointed stars stand for Illinois as the 21st State. Each star representing a different era of Illinois' history: Native American history, Colonial history, and American history. The four white spaces represent the three rivers and lake that make up most of the state's shape. The three red stripes stand for: agriculture, manufacturing, and transportation. The colors are familiar but different, reminding us of our motto, of our State's Sovereignty within our National Union.

2188

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has always been home. Winters and all, this is my favorite place in the country. The landscape is beautiful and tough and versatile, and the people raised upon it are the same. Cities of broad shoulders, fields of calloused hands, prairies of simpler times, Illinois is a melting pot of America's best qualities in one place. This is where my heart is.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three 7-pointed stars represents Illinois as the 21st State. With each star representing a different era in Illinois history: Native American, Colonial, and American. The blue stripe is for the rivers and lake that form most of our shape, as well as the sky. The white stripe represents our various agriculture. The green stripe represents our prairies. With the white stars also evoking clouds moving over the landscape.



2189

Relationship to Illinois

I live in illinois and I don't really like the flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The wave represents Lake Michigan, the blue rectangle above represents the sky, the brown rectangle at the bottom represents the soil, the 20 stars represents the 20 states that came before Illinois, the star in the middle represents the state of Illinois.



2190

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow represents the fact that we are in the great corn belt. One star represents Springfield, and the other Chicago. The star in the middle represents us going through the Industrial Revolution. The two blue stripes represent rivers.



2191

Relationship to Illinois

Have been physically in Illinois once before in the name of vexillology.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Reinterprets State Seal flag in symbolic geometry suited to flags - National colors of USA. Red for the ribbon in the Eagle's beak, and fertile prairie. Deep yellow sun. Dark blue column at hoist stylizes the north-south shape of Illinois; also alludes to Chicago Great Lakes world port. Star also represents the State. Two oblique lines (V) evoke the Eagle's wings. The quadrangles blue-red and triangles yellow-white triangles, interlock evoke State Sovereignty and National Union.



2192

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student who lives in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my opinion you should choose my flag because it is the most like Illinois. The blue represents the oceans. The red represents the Great Chicago Fire. The green represents the prairie land.



2193

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student who lives in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the blue for the water. I chose the green for the land. Lastly the star represents the United States.



2194

Relationship to Illinois

I am a fifth generation and life long Illinois resident, born and raised in Danville. I graduated university of Illinois in Champaign. I currently work in the design industry in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's 21 diamonds represents Illinois's entry to the union as the 21st state. The green represents the rich agricultural heritage of the state. The large blue bands on the edges symbolize the largest waterways, the mississippi river and lake michigan, which made the state a trade hub and contributed to the success of the economy here.



2195

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student who lives in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think my flag is good for Illinois. First, it has a fire for the Great Chicago Fire. It is a good choice because it shows that Illinois went through tough times. Secondly, I chose buildings. Those are good choices because it shows how Illinois made the first skyscrapers and how they made progress after the Great Chicago Fire. Finally, I chose a blue background. I made that to show the Mississippi River and the great lakes. This is why my flag is great.



2196

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student who lives in Illinois who has been studying Illinois history this year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think you should choose my flag. First, I learned that the cardinal is the state bird so that should be on the flag. Second, it is not too complicated, and it has no words, so people don't look at a bunch of jumbled letters. Last, I did red and blue to say, "Hey, Look, we are a part of America!" That's why I think you should choose my design.



2197

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston, Illinois. I've lived here most of my life. I've traveled around Illinois and found that the natural landscape here gives me inspiration for my art. As an artist, I'm drawn to wide-open vistas, such as the wide bends of the Mississippi River, the shores of Lake Michigan, and, of course, the prairie that is the hallmark of this state. I'm now a university student at Chicago State University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tree: The black oak, a key species in the endangered Oak Savannah habitat. The Cross: Illinois is a crossroads for the US and the world. It radiates outwards - a nod to our state's history and future. The dots represent both past and present. Arc (2x): Blue represents the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The arc was designed to mimic their path. Orange represents travel: corn reaching for the sun; goods and novel ideas riding the rivers. Blue background: The sky, which is the backdrop.



2198



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. Currently reside in Chicago where I am a paramedic for the Chicago Fire Department, and an amateur historian and gardener on my days off.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Yellow background--represents sunshine and many of our native flowers. Blue stripe (top)--Sky, Lake Michigan and our extensive river system. Green stripe--native prairie grasses, plants and moraines plus the rolling hills of southern Illinois. Red--the circle of life, a prominent tribal color of many historic tribal nations, including the Illini and Potawatomi. and the distinguishing color of our native bird, the cardinal. Green leaves--abstract representations of our native White Oak leaf.

2199



Relationship to Illinois

I am Manuel. I live here and I love the state because in the northern part of it, it's Chicago. City-like place (when it's really a city) and very populated. In the southern part, rural. Farms. Grasslands. Prairies. Corn fields. I really like that part of the state as well.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On the top part of the flag, you will see blue. That represents that beautiful blue sky that you will find in Illinois. On the bottom part, you will see green. The green represents the grass and the farms that are always green. On the center right and left, you will see corn. The corn represents the agriculture of corn, the highest produced plant in Illinois. In the center, the symbol of Illiniwek, the chief of the Illini tribe, represents the native tribe that gave the state its name.

2200

Relationship to Illinois

I have called Illinois home for all my 32 years. I was born in Peoria, and raised nearby in Morton. I attended the University of Illinois, and played in the Marching Illini.

Today, I live in Chicago, where I spend my time exploring the best city in the world by bike. Work, school, family, and leisure has taken me to every corner of the state, and learning the stories of this special place is a personal passion. My Illinois roots run deep, and I'm proud to call this place home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag of 6 gold-orange & blue fletches on white field forges a new identity for a state that eludes definition. "Fletch" shape inspired by Illini tribal artwork; Arranged like splayed prairie grass seeds; implies 6-point Chicago star, uniting state behind iconic symbol; centered for geo/cultural centrality; points out for goods we export, in for world gathering here; Gold-orange for prairie bounty; blue for waters that tie state together; white for boundless possibility and opportunity

2201

Relationship to Illinois

Being a Chicagoan is something I have always taken pride in. But attending college in a small town outside Illinois has fostered even more love and appreciation for our entire state. While conducting research for my designs, I found that residents across our Land of Lincoln held community-mindedness and hometown values in high regard. I also saw the vitality of every community. Today, our state's personal and communal freedoms greatly inspire me, instilling in me a strong sense of state pride.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The horizontality of this design is inspired by Prairie-style architect F. L. Wright as a love letter to the plains. Centered is the sun, referencing the Illinois seal the state motto. The white section of this sun is for the White Oak and White-tailed deer*both state symbols. The dark blue represents Lake Michigan, while the light blue represents the bordering rivers. A yellow stripe represents maize, an economically significant crop to Illinois and the Illiniwek.

2202

Relationship to Illinois

Being a Chicagoan is something I have always taken pride in. But attending college in a small town outside Illinois has fostered even more love and appreciation for our entire state. While conducting research for my designs, I found that residents across our Land of Lincoln held community-mindedness and hometown values in high regard. I also saw the vitality of every community. Today, our state's personal and communal freedoms greatly inspire me, instilling in me a strong sense of state pride.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The horizontality of this design is inspired by Prairie-style architect F. L. Wright as a love letter to the plains. The three stars represent both the bordering rivers and the urban, suburban, and rural communities. Each star has seven points, totaling 21, as Illinois was the 21st state in the Union. The dark blue represents Lake Michigan, and the light blue stripe represents the Illinois river. A yellow stripe represents maize, an economically significant crop to Illinois and the Illiniwek.

2203

Relationship to Illinois

Being a Chicagoan is something I have always taken pride in. But attending college in a small town outside Illinois has fostered even more love and appreciation for our entire state. While conducting research for my designs, I found that residents across our Land of Lincoln held community-mindedness and hometown values in high regard. I also saw the vitality of every community. Today, our state's personal and communal freedoms greatly inspire me, instilling in me a strong sense of state pride.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Prairie-style windows inspired this composition. The two vertical stripes are inspired by the arms of Lincoln's chair at his D.C. Memorial, with the dark blue color representing Lake Michigan. The light blue sections represent the Illinois River and the three rivers bordering the state. The white represents freedom and peace, referencing the Underground Railroad and Emancipation Proclamation. A yellow stripe symbolizes maize, an economically significant crop to Illinois and the Illiniwek.

2204

Relationship to Illinois

Have been physically in Illinois once before in the name of vexillology.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Gold State Star top of the column (itself the rough shape of Illinois) Big Star = the 21st State ; 20 small stars at 5-points = 20 Triangles and quadrangles interlocking Gold for the productive prairie Teal (Green-Blue) for state and national parks The golden sun from the State Seal The oblique Great Check Mark for a Great State



2205

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for over 50 years, and I like flags. My flag design has three 5 petaled violets & one 3 pointed big bluestem, which adds up to 18. The stylized "corn cob" on the right has 9 rows of two "kernels" each, equalling 18. That's a more interesting way of representing our admission date into the Union than just writing "1818" again. My flag includes tradition, color, distinctiveness and a story to tell.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The center has a male/female cardinal. It's right & fair to include both, & I don't want Cubs fans to fret. He's perched on dolomite. She's perched on fluorite. The sun includes a subtle 6 pointed star salute to Chicago's flag. Shield top refers to our Centennial flag. Oak leaves on the bottom, for our state tree. Green panel represents prairie grasses w/ one Big Bluestem, w/ violets. Gold panel is a subtle representation of corn, w/ a stylized letter I in the center.



2206

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois state scholar from Madison county and graduate of the University of Illinois, class of 2009



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag utilizes the distinctive Illinois orange and blue color scheme and takes advantage of the relative paucity of orange on regional flags to enhance recognition. The concept of state sovereignty is carried over from the outgoing flag and seal with 21 stars, one for each state after the statehood of Illinois, and the concept of national union is alluded to with the central star. The horizontal stripes of the middle band symbolize the regions of Illinois and allude to the national flag.

2207

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has always been home. Winters and all, this is my favorite place in the country. The landscape is beautiful and tough and versatile, and the people raised upon it are the same. Cities of broad shoulders, fields of calloused hands, prairies of simpler times, Illinois is a melting pot of America's best qualities in one place. This is where my heart is.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white three 7-pointed stars stand for Illinois as the 21st State. With each star representing a different era in Illinois history: Native American, Colonial, and American. The blue stripe is for the rivers and lake that form most of our shape, as well as the sky. The orange stripe represents our various agriculture, like corn and pumpkins. The green stripe represents our prairies. With the white stars also evoking clouds moving over the landscape.

2208

Relationship to Illinois

I live in McHenry County, IL and run a nonprofit art studio with locations in Crystal Lake and Woodstock. I have lived and traveled around the world, and now have found my home in Illinois. The community, kindness and generosity I see every day in the people around me, and the delights of the lively cities and peaceful natural areas, make me proud to be part of this great state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green, blue and white evoke the colors of the Illinois State Seal. The blue diagonal stripe on a green field depicts the Illinois River rising from southwest to northeast, and represents our state's natural beauty, as well as the importance of our transportation and agricultural history. The Illinois state tree's white oak leaves and acorn symbolize the rich oak woodlands, and also show the continuing growth and perseverance of the people of Illinois.

2209

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinois resident. I grew up in Fairmount, IL -- a small town of 600 in Vermilion County. As a resident of Central Illinois, I was surrounded by the natural beauty and agricultural might of the state. From a young age, it has been important to me to give back to my community and state. After attending Salt Fork High School, I earned a degree in English Secondary Education from Northern Illinois University (Go Huskies!). Currently, I live in Chicago and teach young Illinoisans.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bottom of the flag features 18 orange and white stripes to symbolize the fields that feed us. In the center casting a shadow, there is a skyline with a silhouette of ILLINOIS to recognize the first skyscraper in the world and the many more that followed it that make up Chicago's world famous skyline. On a blue sky, a white and orange sunrise is made up of 2 overlaid Chicago Stars. This sunrise depicts the state as a shining example of agricultural and industrial power to lead the nation.

2210

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Naperville, IL. I moved away in 2012 for work, but I'm moving back to Chicagoland in November 2024. so by the time the flag is decided, I'll be an Illinois resident again.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The shield and banner from the state seal, supported by 2 heraldic Tullymonstrum. Tullymonstrum are the Illinois state fossil, and they are uniquely Illinoisan: nothing like them has been found anywhere else in the world. The shield is crowned by the 4 stars of the Chicago flag, representing Chicago. The dark blue blaze and corner represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan respectively, as these waterways have shaped the history & character of Illinois.

2211

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I am 24 now

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to keep the year and shield within the design, but wanted to include the river and state bird. Male cardinals are some of the most beautiful birds



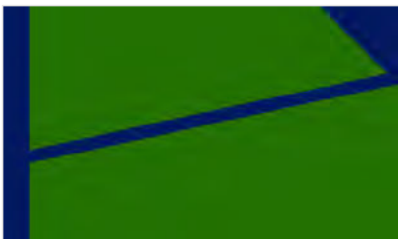
2212

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Naperville, IL. I moved away in 2012 for work, but I'm moving back to Chicagoland in November 2024. so by the time the flag is decided, I'll be an Illinois resident again.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue blaze on the far left represents the Mississippi River, and the blue top right corner represents Lake Michigan. The blue slash from the one to the other represents the Illinois Waterway, and its predecessor, the Illinois-Michigan Canal. Connecting the Mississippi to Lake Michigan made Illinois a center of trade and industry, and this design honors that history. The green field the canal cuts through represents agriculture, the third great Illinoisan sector.



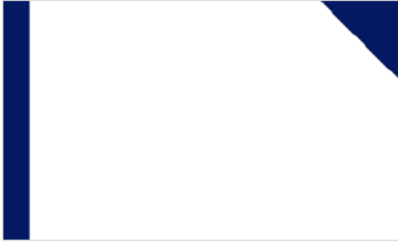
2213

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Naperville, IL. I moved away in 2012 for work, but I'm moving back to Chicagoland in November 2024. so by the time the flag is decided, I'll be an Illinois resident again.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue blaze on the left hand side of the flag represents the Mississippi River; the blue corner in the top right of the flag represents Lake Michigan. The importance of these bodies of water for the development of trade and industry in Illinois can't be overstated. This is a minimalist design, and would also work well as border elements if combined with any number of center-element-only flag designs.



2214

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I have done all of my schooling thus far. Illinois is also home to many of my family members and friends.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the background is the color of the state flower(common blue-violet). The stars are from the Chicago flag but changed to white to contrast with the cardinal on the flag. The cardinal, the state bird, is carrying a prairie dog because Illinois is the "prairie state". The landscape at the bottom of the flag is the silhouette of Illinois turned to its side and then duplicated and flipped. Also added was the silhouette of the Willis Tower along with other building silhouettes to represent Chicago.



2215



Relationship to Illinois

My name is Kyli Barrios, and I was born in the great state of Illinois. The state of Illinois produces much of the corn that is grown here in the United States. I was born in Chicago, Illinois and I love the city for many of its iconic spots for example the beam. I love Illinois. Go Cubs! Go Blackhawks! Go White Sox! Go Bears!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag: The eagle on my flag represents the strength and freedom of America. The eagle's feathers at the end of its body that is colored blue and white represent the 13 colonies. The eagle's feathers on its wings that are colored red and white represent the 50 states. The color red on my eagle represents valor and bravery. The white signifies purity and innocence. The blue stands for perseverance. The gold signifies wealth. The balance scale of justice.

2216



Relationship to Illinois

I am a new resident of Illinois as of January 2024, my family and I relocated from Colorado when my wife was offered and accepted a position with the Peoria Parks District. She is a proud member of the executive board and is making a great positive impact with the District. I have always been drawn to Illinois, Chicago namely, but most recently when I flew on a very small plane to Carbondale for work. The opportunity and history of Illinois are what drew us in, and the hope for a bright future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents progress and leadership with its bold colors and forward movement. The symbolism of the star is freedom, independence, hope, and light. The colors represented are: BLUE (for Illinois many waterways and the Great Lake, as well as leadership and unity) WHITE (for hope, peace, and faith) RED (for bravery and courage, a thank you to our veterans)

2217

Relationship to Illinois

I currently live in Rockford, IL. I am an 3rd year public, elementary art teacher for Genoa Kingston community unit school district 424. I went to school at north central, rock valley college, and Rockford University. I am a first generation college graduate.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

We are not just diamonds in Illinois. We are 14k gold. We outshine the rest of the country. The rope in my flag represents tying us together as citizens. Nature, rivers, and parks brings a love to hiking every weekend. The Windy City brings us the bean, and all the smiles that come with it. My home brings us the red symbol. Cardinals fly over keeping an eye on all of us bringing its 14k gold beauty. With all of this the sun continues to rise and set bring with it more of our golden shine.



2218

Relationship to Illinois

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2219



Relationship to Illinois

██████, the child in question has spent most of his life in Illinois, and has lived of of his life that he remembers in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars represent how Illinois was the 21st state, the green area is a simplified shape of Illinois and is green because of the agriculture in Illinois, and the pale blue line represents the Mississippi to the West of Illinois

2220



Relationship to Illinois

I am a new resident of Illinois as of January 2024, my family and I relocated from Colorado when my wife was offered and accepted a position with the Peoria Parks District. She is a proud member of the executive board and is making a great positive impact with the District. I have always been drawn to Illinois, Chicago namely, but most recently when I flew on a very small plane to Carbondale for work. The opportunity and history of Illinois are what drew us in, and the hope for a bright future.

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2221

Relationship to Illinois

I spent the vast majority of my childhood and thus far all of my adulthood in Chicago's suburbs. I remember growing up and visiting Starved Rock on warm summer days or taking the Metra to Chicago on snowy weekends. I remember being amazed when I drove into Galena for the first time. Illinois is my home, not only because it is where I live, but because I have come to appreciate our rich history, natural beauty, and most importantly warm people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The broken chain pays homage to President Abraham Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation. The three stars represent northern, central, and southern Illinois. There are 21 points in total, representing Illinois's position as the 21st state. The gold represents prairies and agriculture. The blue represents the lakes and rivers. Blue also pays homage to the color of the uniforms worn by soldiers of the Union Army. White represents snow. Black represents the state's rich history.

2222

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design is composed of 7 horizontal lines, 3 blue, 2 yellow, and 2 white. A vertical white line creates a stylized letter I. The white represents snow. The blue lines represent, from bottom to top, the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, the lakes and rivers entirely in Illinois, and Lake Michigan. The yellow lines represent the prairies and agriculture. The three seven-pointed stars represent northern, central, and southern Illinois. The 21 points total symbolize Illinois as the 21st state.

2223

Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raised in the state of Illinois. Some of my best memories were made here. From visiting the towers of Chicago to riding a small steamboat on the mighty Mississippi, I've always felt a close sense of home and belonging to Illinois. When I found out Illinois was taking submissions for a new flag, I couldn't be more excited. With this flag design, I hope to reimagine the Illinois spirit and give the state a new sense of pride.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I came up with this flag while on a car trip through the beautiful Illinois countryside. Out of my window I saw something so familiar, yet so stunning. This flag is meant to replicate the familiar scene of a bright yellow cornfield fixed below a line of trees, with the vast Illinois sky hanging overhead. The teardrop star featured in the top left of the flag represents not only the statehood that Illinois has claimed since 1818, but also the southward ward flow of the Mississippi River.

2224

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the state of Illinois. As such, I have a direct motivation to see the state improve, including its symbols. I have also seen the sort of divide that has formed between Chicagoland and Downstate, and have an interest in trying to bridge that gap through symbolism.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents the natural environment of Illinois, with the red representing the sunset over a golden field, where the white forms a bright horizon. The blue represents Illinois' connection to water which has historically given it so much relevance. The colors could also work in both rural and urban settings. The 8-pointed star is there on one hand to maintain the uniqueness and pride which Chicago has with their flag as well as symbolize Illinois being central to the rest of the US.

2225

Relationship to Illinois

I am a new resident of Illinois as of January 2024, my family and I relocated from Colorado when my wife was offered and accepted a position with the Peoria Parks District. She is a proud member of the executive board and is making a great positive impact with the District. I have always been drawn to Illinois, Chicago namely, but most recently when I flew on a very small plane to Carbondale for work. The opportunity and history of Illinois are what drew us in, and the hope for a bright future.



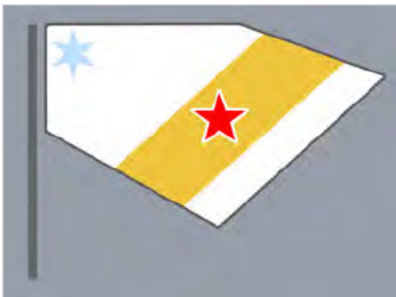
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2226

Relationship to Illinois

To the Great State of Illinois, As a postal worker and child of a dedicated state employee, I'm proud to submit my design for the new state flag. I envision it flying outside the Governor's Mansion, where my father will see it every day as he goes to work. It's a symbol of our family's commitment to public service, and I hope it will bring him pride and joy.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's shape is roughly that of Illinois, the star in the left corner is placed where Chicago is, and is in reference to the Chicago flag with the shape of its star and the color used to represent the water ways that have sustained it. As for the yellow stripe it represents the agricultural corn band that Illinois is in and the red star is placed where Springfield is and represents the star on the city flag of Springfield.

2227

Relationship to Illinois

To the Great State of Illinois, As a postal worker and child of a dedicated state employee, I'm proud to submit my design for the new state flag. I envision it flying outside the Governor's Mansion, where my father will see it every day as he goes to work. It's a symbol of our family's commitment to public service, and I hope it will bring him pride and joy.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star in the left corner represents Chicago, and is in reference to the Chicago flag with the shape of its star and the color used to represent the water ways that have sustained it. As for the yellow stripe it represent the agricultural corn band that Illinois is. The star in the center represents Springfield that lays roughly in the center of the state and is also the star on the city flag of Springfield.



2228

Relationship to Illinois

To the Great State of Illinois, As a postal worker and child of a dedicated state employee, I'm proud to submit my design for the new state flag. I envision it flying outside the Governor's Mansion, where my father will see it every day as he goes to work. It's a symbol of our family's commitment to public service, and I hope it will bring him pride and joy.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's shape is roughly that of Illinois, the star in the left corner is placed where Chicago is, and is in reference to the Chicago flag with its city flag's star represented. As for the yellow stripe it represent the agricultural corn band that Illinois is in and the red star is placed where Springfield and represents the star on the city flag of Springfield.



2229

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a proud Illinois resident my entire life. While I have traveled and had many wonderful life experiences, the wonderful people and beauty of Illinois always call me back Home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois Ribbons of Blue and Green - Illinois is bound by water to the east and west and in between are some of the most glorious prairies, wetlands, farmland and forest preserves. We have beautiful flora and wildlife. We are also a State that Works as hardworking people from all across the State contribute to its prosperity. In Illinois, we are proud, hardworking, welcoming and thankful. We have much to be proud of as the Land of Lincoln, the Prairie State and the Heartland of America.



2230

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a proud Illinois resident my entire life. While I have traveled and had many wonderful life experiences, the wonderful people and beauty of Illinois always call me back Home. Submitting 3 images. (2 of 3)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

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2231

Relationship to Illinois

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2232

Relationship to Illinois

I am a current resident of Illinois and possess an Illinois driver's license. I moved to Illinois from Florida in August of 2022 to attend graduate school at the University of Illinois Chicago, from which I graduated with a master's degree in May of 2024.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 6-pointed star represents Illinois and its six borders: Lake Michigan, Indiana, the Wabash, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers, and Wisconsin. The red field represents a cardinal's wing. The blue stripe is in the shape of a scythe, representing the history of agriculture, and the final red band completes an arrow signifying progress. In the vertical position, the red field is in the shape of IL with the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi to the south. 21 stars represent the 21st State.



2233

Relationship to Illinois

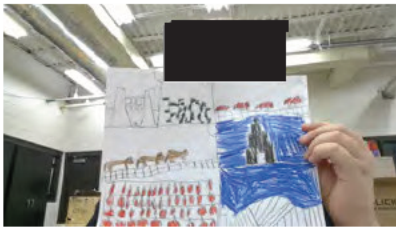
I have lived in Illinois since I was BORN.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have the sears tower Abe Lincoln's hat and the big forests at southern Illinois.



2234



Relationship to Illinois

I had lived in Illinois for all of my life and i live in a town it is nice and i love that we are the biggest bean makers.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

to know what we have in the state.

2235



Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinois resident. Born in Chicago, raised in Woodridge, went to college at NIU, raised my family in Gurnee. I have built a career in this state. I love that I can experience the cultural experiences of Chicago, the community I have in my town and beautiful nature all in one week.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Distinctive IL elements: The state tree white oak leaves encapsulates the natural heritage, history, character of ILL & enduring spirit of its people. The six sided star (Chicago, IL symbol) represents 6 pillars of IL: 1) Agriculture, 2) Industry, 3) Scientific Discovery (UofChi, Fermi, Argon) 4) Political history (Lincoln, Obama), 5) Culture, 6) Progress. Orange represents the prairies, harvest. 2 Blue stripes represent the Mississippi River & Lake Michigan. White strip represents the prairies.

2236



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my hole life and i love the sox's.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The temple and farming and nuclear power plant

2237

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the Lakeview neighborhood of Chicago and raised in the south suburbs in Homewood, IL. I currently live on the northwest side of Chicago in Norwood Park with my wife and two daughters. I teach art and design at Evanston Township High School and I'm currently in my 14th year of teaching.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design recognizes urban, suburban, and rural Illinois. The red star symbolizes Chicago and draws a connection to the Chicago flag to create unity in our state's branding identity. The compass star represents Springfield, our capital. The three blue stripes symbolize our waterways: 1. Lake Michigan, 2. our rivers, and 3. our canal systems. One gold stripe symbolizes our native people and prairies, while the other gold stripe symbolizes grain, corn, and our farming communities.

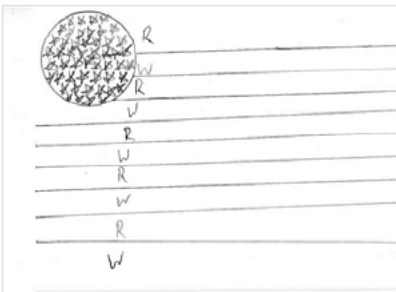
2238

Relationship to Illinois

I've been living here my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first flag I just simply added three stars instead of the usually 50 stars and an eagle in the middle, there's no color on the second one.



2239

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria, raised in the town of Washington, and now call Champaign home, where I founded Clanin Creative, an LGBTQ+ owned agency. My journey as an entrepreneur began with invaluable support from the IL Small Business Development Center. I graduated from Illinois State University and my family has called Illinois home since the early 1800s. My brother-in-law is a 6th-generation farmer whose family has been farming here for generations. I am very proud to call our beautiful state home!



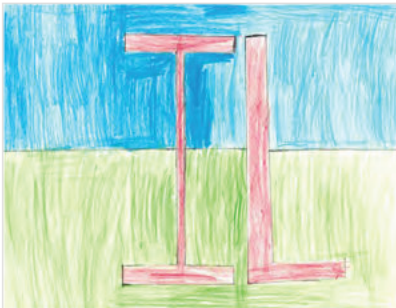
Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design celebrates Illinois' stunning landscape and its vital role in agriculture. The 21 rows of crops honor Illinois as the 21st state, while the beautiful blue shade symbolizes our expansive skies and the waters of Lake Michigan and the mighty Mississippi River. One bold star stands proudly to represent our place in the American flag. It's simple, memorable design makes it instantly recognizable, a symbol of Illinois' heritage.

2240

Relationship to Illinois

This flag represents Illinois is the center of everything. The blue water is Michigan Lake. The green grass is all of the land.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois is the center of everything. The blue water is Michigan Lake. The green grass is all of the land.

2241

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria, raised in the town of Washington, and now call Champaign home, where I founded Clanin Creative, an LGBTQ+ owned agency. My journey as an entrepreneur began with invaluable support from the IL Small Business Development Center. I graduated from Illinois State University and my family has called Illinois home since the early 1800s. My brother-in-law is a 6th-generation farmer whose family has been farming here for generations. I am very proud to call our beautiful state home!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

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2242

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for nearly my entire life, and while I've had opportunities to relocate, I've always chosen to stay. I'm a die-hard fan of the Bulls, White Sox, and Bears, and the pride I have in my hometown runs deep. I went to DePaul University, where I was a member of the track team, and those experiences cemented my connection to this state. Illinois is home in every sense, from the sports teams I love to the community I've built.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is shows a white tailed deer amongst the tall grasses of our famed prairies. This is the state animal in the great habitat that our state was founded upon. While most people think of the cardinal when thinking of a state animal the grace that the white tailed deer is demonstrated daily in our lives as well. In addition, cities like Chicago, Rockford, Carbondale and Springfield all have their beginnings in the prairie. The flag should be white, "Illinois" in dark blue.

2243



Relationship to Illinois

I am re-submitting this design to replace my previous entry (image ID 1595) if possible. This one is a tighter design in various ways. Thank you for your patience. If this is not possible, I will understand.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is "Illinois Free" flag, with the year of statehood 1818 not so hidden in the tail feathers. This design harkens to an indigenous style suggesting Illinois' beginnings long predates 1818.

2244



Relationship to Illinois

My connection to Illinois runs deep. My ancestors came from Ireland in the early 1900s and settled in Gridley, IL, where they farmed corn, soybeans, and raised livestock. My father grew up on that same farm, while my mother was raised in Champaign. They met at Illinois State University, where I also earned my Bachelor of Arts in graphic design. I've lived in Illinois my entire life, and its agricultural landscapes and small-town values make me proud to call Illinois home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stripes symbolize Illinois' statehood as the 21st state and its agricultural roots, resembling rows of crops and the open prairie. Three six-pointed stars represent the state's three regions*northern, central, and southern*and their 18 points reference Illinois' founding in 1818. A sun on the horizon, also from the current flag, symbolizes hope and tradition. The colors, also featured on our current state*Old Glory Blue, Hunter Green, and Yellow*honor Illinois' history and natural beauty.

2245

Relationship to Illinois



I've lived in Illinois for nearly my entire life, and while I've had opportunities to relocate, I've always chosen to stay. I'm a die-hard fan of the Bulls, White Sox, and Bears, and the pride I have in my hometown runs deep. I went to DePaul University, where I was a member of the track team, and those experiences cemented my connection to this state. Illinois is home in every sense, from the sports teams I love to the community I've built.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cardinal, our state bird, is an example of resilience and freedom as it flies throughout the entire state. The bold lines and dark face communicate the strength of the state amidst social, political and financial strife.

2246

Relationship to Illinois



My connection to Illinois runs deep. My ancestors came from Ireland in the early 1900s and settled in Gridley, IL, where they farmed corn, soybeans, and raised livestock. My father grew up on that same farm, while my mother was raised in Champaign. They met at Illinois State University, where I also earned my Bachelor of Arts in graphic design. I've lived in Illinois my entire life, and its agricultural landscapes and small-town values make me proud to call Illinois home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stripes represent Illinois as the 21st state and reflect its agricultural roots, resembling rows of crops and the open prairie. Three six-pointed stars represent the state's three regions* northern, central, and southern* and their 18 points reference Illinois' founding in 1818. A sun on the horizon, also featured on our current state flag, represents renewal. The colors* Blue for unity, Green for agriculture, and Yellow for a bright future* honor Illinois' history and natural beauty.

2247

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stripes symbolize Illinois' statehood as the 21st state and its agricultural roots, resembling rows of crops and the open prairie. Three five-pointed stars represent the state's three regions*northern, central, and southern. A sun on the horizon, from the current flag, symbolizes hope and tradition. The colors, also featured on our current state flag*Old Glory Blue for unity, Hunter Green for agriculture, and Yellow for a bright future*honor Illinois' history and natural beauty.

2248

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria, raised in the town of Washington, and now call Champaign home, where I founded Clanin Creative, an LGBTQ+ owned agency. My journey as an entrepreneur began with invaluable support from the IL Small Business Development Center. I graduated from Illinois State University and my family has called Illinois home since the early 1800s. My brother-in-law is a 6th-generation farmer whose family has been farming here for generations. I am very proud to call our beautiful state home!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is defined by its 3 distinct regions*north, central, and south. This design uses 3 horizontal stripes to reflect that unity. The top blue stripe represents Lake Michigan (north), while the light / dark green rows symbolize our agriculture (central). The deeper green at the bottom reflects the forests and state parks of southern IL. The dark blue "I" honors the Mississippi and IL with the points of the 3 white stars adding up to 21 -celebrating our state's proud position in the Union.

2249

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for nearly my entire life, and while I've had opportunities to relocate, I've always chosen to stay. I'm a die-hard fan of the Bulls, White Sox, and Bears, and the pride I have in my hometown runs deep. I went to DePaul University, where I was a member of the track team, and those experiences cemented my connection to this state. Illinois is home in every sense, from the sports teams I love to the community I've built.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lincoln, the man who saved the union and freed the slaves was from our great home state. He helped develop the country into what it is today and unknowingly sparked a great civil rights movement and kept the country together. On the bottom is our state motto that should never be forgotten and also marketed more as most citizens don't know it!

2250

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Champaign, Illinois, and raised in the close-knit community of Arcola, Illinois. My parents came to the U.S. from Mexico in their early twenties, following their own parents' journey for a better life. Growing up in a small central Illinois town, I had the opportunity to experience the charm of rural life before attending and graduating from Eastern Illinois University. Today, I'm proud to be working at an agency back in Champaign, where my story began.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag captures our horizons while symbolizing the unique elements of Illinois. The green on the right reflects our fertile land, and the blue on the left represents our iconic lake and rivers. The yellow in the top left symbolizes new dawns of prosperity and hope. The white space in the top right honors the simplicity of our current flag, evoking tradition. At the center, a single 5-pointed star pays tribute to Illinois' place as the 21st state, embodying our history and identity.

2251

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2252

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag embodies the unity of Illinois' diverse regions*North, Central, and South. The top blue line symbolizes the north, with Lake Michigan and Chicago as its urban pulse. The middle yellow line reflects the center, defined by endless cornfields, representing the state's agricultural heart. The bottom green line symbolizes the south, showcasing its forested beauty and rolling landscapes. A single 5-pointed star pays homage to our status as the 21st state, embodying our history and identity.

2253

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria, raised in the town of Washington, and now call Champaign home, where I founded Clanin Creative, an LGBTQ+ owned agency. My journey as an entrepreneur began with invaluable support from the IL Small Business Development Center. I graduated from Illinois State University and my family has called Illinois home since the early 1800s. My brother-in-law is a 6th-generation farmer whose family has been farming here for generations. I am very proud to call our beautiful state home!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is defined by its 3 distinct regions*north, central, and south. This design uses 3 horizontal stripes to reflect that unity. The top blue stripe represents Lake Michigan (north), while the light/dark green rows symbolize our agriculture (central). The deeper green at the bottom reflects the forests and state parks of southern IL. The dark blue "I" honors the Mississippi and IL, with the points of the three white stars adding up to 21*celebrating our state's proud position in the Union.

2254

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design captures Illinois' diversity through its three regions. The top strip (northern) in light blue represents Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The middle (central) green rows symbolize the state's agricultural legacy, while the darker green at the bottom (southern) reflects its forests and state parks. Bold white stars represent each region, their 7 points adding up to 21, honoring Illinois as the 21st state. This modern design is an emblem of unity and pride.

2256

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2259

Relationship to Illinois

I am a life long resident of Illinois. I love our state, its natural sights and resources, the towns, city of Chicago, and the many public places like Brookfield zoo, the museums, and parks; and its history. I grew up near Brookfield zoo and have always been in the Chicagoland area. I usually use the TJC Hrubes form of my name for illustration purposes, and have been an illustrator for over 30 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is my second design submission; it incorporates the silhouette of our state with a star marking the state capital, on a field of the shield on the current flag, in a gold ring with the state motto encribed in it, with prairie grass sheaves behind, over Illinois.



2260

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here my entire life, and can't see myself moving out of the midwest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dog enthusiastically drinking out of his Chicago cup represents how much people love the windy city, the crown of the midwest. The water in the background represents Lake Michigan, which is a huge part of the culture of our state. And of course, Lincoln himself is in his chair because he was born here, that's why he's on the dang license plates.



2261

Relationship to Illinois

I just moved to Chatham. I lived in Oregon but my dad just got a new job in Nestle in Jacksonville, IL. My relationship with Illinois is that this state stands proud and is a part of the USA. This state is filled with history like Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the USA and Chicago is the 3rd biggest city in the USA. We should appreciate that this state is covered in glory and wisdom. Illinois is proud to stand tall. Let Illinois stand and be strong.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bald eagle is to represent the USA, the corn is to represent how much corn this state produces, the state of Illinois that I drew means that this state is important. The banners are colored red and blue for the political colors.



2262

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois, I am [REDACTED] and I'm 14. The 16 red stars represent Abraham Lincoln (16th President), who spent the majority of his life in Illinois and the 21 stars (blue) represent how Illinois was the 21st state in the Union. The eagle will present how the state of Illinois provides justice and equality for all, the water represents Lake Michigan and its beauty and the sun shows how great the state is.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The text "In God we Trust" shows that this state has been guided to a correct path by God. The yellow stripe that contains the blue stars shows how important the state of Illinois is to the Union.



2263



Relationship to Illinois

The relationship between our school and Illinois is one of pride and commitment. As we work to nurture and support all students, we celebrate their contributions to the broader community. These flag submissions are a testament to their creativity and resilience, reflecting the diversity that makes our state so special. Thank you for considering our students' work as part of this meaningful project. We look forward to sharing their designs with you!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Our students have put lots of effort into designing flags that represent their unique perspectives and creativity. This initiative not only allows them to express themselves artistically but also fosters a deeper connection to our beautiful state of Illinois. They are excited to showcase their interpretations of what Illinois means to them, drawing from its rich history and vibrant culture.

2264



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2265

Relationship to Illinois

In 2015, I became a resident of Illinois and have lived here the majority of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

'Land of Lincoln' is our state motto, and I put a touch of Chicago in there by adding the city skyline.



2266

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois since I was born

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red bird is the state bird that many know, The blue in the background represents the midwest



2267

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2268



Relationship to Illinois

Heather Will (School Teacher)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is represented by the bald eagle, and have included photos of Route 66, The Monarch Butterfly, The Violet Flower, and by Chicago's Cloud Gate (The Bean). The Eagle is symbolizing strength and freedom. The Route 66 represents our highway in which we have a path to drive or roam freely. The Monarch Butterfly represents the return of souls and ancestors. The Violet Flower represents peace, faith and as a gift. Lastly the Cloud Gate represents a passage between realms.

2269



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2270



Relationship to Illinois

I live here and have multiple family members who live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red white and blue stripes along with the white triangles symbolize America. The seal is in the top right corner, with some adjustments including an updated date in the bottom. I felt the flag was very intricate so in the design I strive for simplicity.

2271

Relationship to Illinois

My immigrant ancestors settled in Chicago a century ago and our family has called Illinois home ever since. My wife and I met in her native Wisconsin and spent a few years in NYC, so I've felt our state's unique influence elsewhere. As an at-home dad and having been raised here myself I know how nourishing Illinois is: diverse and supportive people, powerful cities, incredible natural beauty. We returned to raise our own family in Illinois 8 years ago and I knew then * here is where we thrive.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Gold for Illinois' grand prairies and farmlands. Peaceful fields of white. Chicago-blue for our majestic waterways and industrious cities. Stripes curve to form the bald eagle's beak from the state seal and a canoe in tribute to Illinois' great native peoples. Together they hug a rectangle of the same proportions as the state. The 3-part background hints at Illinois' main regions, and the French flag of the explorers who named Illinois. A silhouette of Honest Abe makes it distinctively Illinois.

2272

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2273



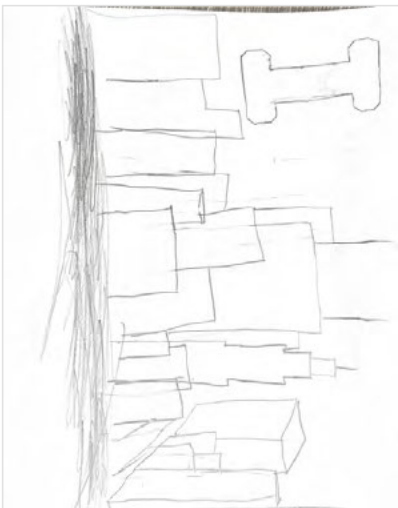
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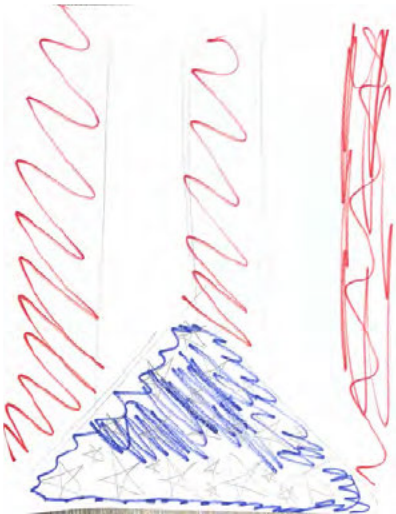
2276

Relationship to Illinois

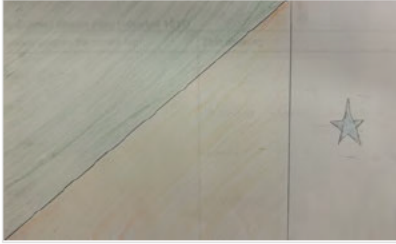
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2277



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The symbolism my flag represents are unity, the blue star, the green which represents our environment can be balanced, and lastly the orange is the state's national color. My flag is a good flag since it is simple and the symbolism with my flag helps to better represent Illinois.

2278



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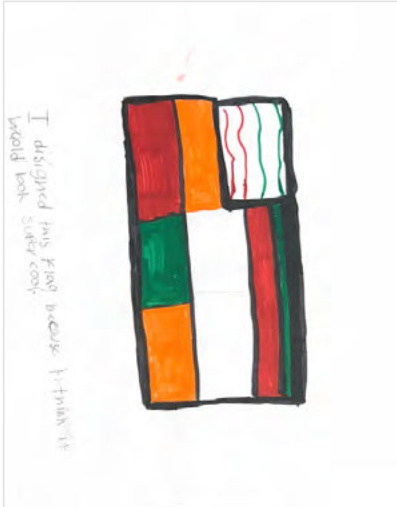
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2280

Relationship to Illinois

I am an 8th grade student in Chicago Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe is to represent some of the major lakes in Illinois such as Lake Michigan. The white sky represents Chicago where there is a lot of light. So the white is the light of the city. The green is to represent the Garden of the Gods, which is a popular natural feature in Illinois. The white oak tree is the state tree, which I do see a lot of around Illinois. When I think of Illinois I think of Chicago, I think of the lakes, I think of the trees, I think of home.



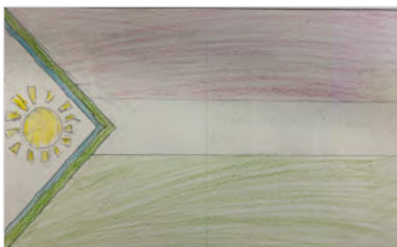
2281

Relationship to Illinois

I am an 8th grade student in Chicago, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The lilac stripe at the top is the flower of Illinois. The dark and light greens represent the rich soil in Illinois. The sun represents the old flag of Illinois. And the glue stripe represents the river in Illinois.



2282



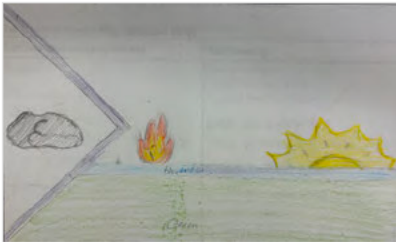
Relationship to Illinois

I am an 8th grade student in Chicago, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design is to show Illinois as a whole, not just the city. The blue in the middle shows the lake we have with the city of Chicago in the background. A hill and a mill show the more rural side of Illinois. Yellow lines radiate out from the design like a shine, showing how bright the people are and how diverse our state is.

2283



Relationship to Illinois

I am an 8th grade student living in Chicago, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun represents our statehood in 1818. The green grass shows our fertile soil. The blue represents Lake Michigan. The violet stripe stands for our state flower, the violet. The rock is an homage to the prior state flag. The fire represents the 1871 Great Chicago Fire.

2284



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Naperville, IL from Lexington, MA during the summer of 2023. I am currently a sophomore at Neuqua Valley High School, in Computer Graphics II.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design has IL's 3 main state colors, the state bird, and the state flower in a large central design.

2285



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Naperville, IL from Lexington, MA during the summer of 2023. I am currently a sophomore at Neuqua Valley High School, in Computer Graphics II.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Seeing as Abraham Lincoln was one of our country's most important presidents, and whose birthplace is IL, the silhouette of Abe Lincoln is flat on the center of the flag, the same silhouette we see all over the country on our penny. The colors include IL's main state colors red and blue, as well as a secondary state color of yellow.

2286



Relationship to Illinois

i am a resident of illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the light blue represents the sky and the yellow and green represent the green grass and wheat fields and the star represents freedom

2287



Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident: 3 counties and 7 municipalities; Attended American Academy of Art/Chicago; Designed the U.S. Commemorative Quarter for the State of Illinois in 2003 (Selected from over 6000 entries); 2022 highest award winner in "Public Good" category from Graphic Design USA; Artist for 200th Abraham Lincoln birthday celebration in Springfield (2008); Red ribbon art winner at Illinois State Fair (2013); "Cool Globes" art exhibition (2017); Southern IL Art & Artisan Center/Rend Lake (2015-16).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Abstract eagles form the star, from which the NW, NE, W-central, E-central, and S sectors of the State are meant to emanate. This was inspired by native Illini animal hides at the Musee de l'Homme in Paris. The right edge of the flag is cut at two 18-degree angles to showcase Illinois' admittance to the Union in 1818. The red stripes, representing the strength and courage of IL citizens, are juxtaposed with blue stripes, representing peace and liberty, to reflect the inherent need for balance.



2288

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a permanent resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois represents a beautiful landscapes and a land of prosper alongside nature.



2289

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident: 3 counties and 7 municipalities; Attended American Academy of Art/Chicago; Designed the U.S. Commemorative Quarter for the State of Illinois in 2003 (Selected from over 6000 entries); 2022 highest award winner in "Public Good" category from Graphic Design USA; Artist for 200th Abraham Lincoln birthday celebration in Springfield (2008); Red ribbon art winner at Illinois State Fair (2013); "Cool Globes" art exhibition (2017); Southern IL Art & Artisan Center/Rend Lake (2015-16).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's right side is cut at 2 18-degree angles to honor Illinois' admittance to the Union in 1818. Later, Illinois was the first State to ratify the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery, symbolized by the gap in the star, representing an important break from the past. The Illinois State Song inspired the blue rivers, the golden prairies, and the center skyscraper, which doubles as an Indian arrow fletching or, when coupled with the star, as a lower case "i" for Illinois.



2290

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the city of Chicago, and am currently a senior at Evanston Township High-school in the city of Evanston

Explain the meaning behind your flag

As a whole my flag cements nature as the powerhouse of the centerpiece of Illinois. From the state plant*the common milkweed* to the massive agriculture industry nature is key. The stripes represent the 5 branches of the Chicago river, and the rural night sky. My flag represents the culmination of rural and urban life that Illinois thrives under.

2291

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here 15 years ago and have lived here all my life. My family has helped and supported this community all my life and I have explored the entire state, glad to call it my home. It's a vast and large state that holds endless creativity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

1 yellow four pointed star in the middle. The top point signifies Chicago, the point on the right signifies lake Michigan, the point on the bottom is Springfield, and the point on the left is remembering the history of the state. 2 red stripes to relate the state to the country of the US. 1 blue stripe to recognize the states position in the civil war. 2 white stripes as an ode to the old flag of Illinois



2292

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2293

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the historic city of Chicago, which is the biggest city in the state of Illinois. I attended elementary, middle and high school in Evanston which is in Illinois. I have made the majority of my memories in the state. Lake Michigan is very special to me. I attend Evanston Township High School.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green being on the left and blue on the right represents Lake Michigan being on the eastside of Illinois. Lake Michigan is the biggest of the Great Lakes and is a big part of Illinois, as Chicago is on the lakeside. The star being there represents the star Illinois has on the American flag, as it's the 21st state to join the union. The yellow represents the farms and the biggest crop grown, corn. The white on the flag pays homage to the Chicago flag having white.

2294

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and have grown to love it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to remember how great of farmland we have, and how lucky we are to live so close to Lake Michigan. Also, I wanted to put a point on remembering the meaning of equality, hence the light blue to represent freedom and the end of slavery in Illinois.



2295

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here for my whole life, so did my dad while he was growing up. I've lived in both Evanston and Chicago, and my dad has lived in Springfield, Evanston, Chicago. I've been to school here, elementary, middle, High-school, and I love the area.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Deep blue from the American flag but to also show how we are a democratic state. Gold and orange to represent the sun. The symbols and shapes are from an Illinuek painting which is the indigenous tribe from here. I wanted to represent the cultures that are behind this state, more than just original American settlers but the indigenous people who have been here since the beginning. The Jewish people who felt safe enough to hide here from antisemitism.



2296

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind this flag is to show off the importance of the symbols we have in Illinois, such as water, and farming. These are important because the state wouldn't be as successful if it wasn't for Lake Michigan and the rivers, farming is big in Illinois as we are the leading soybean and corn producers in the country, also allowing for it to be successful in that sense. I wanted to create a sense of symmetry throughout the flag so that the flag represents balance and unity.



2297

Relationship to Illinois

I am a high school student born in Chicago and raised in Evanston. I go to Evanston Township High School

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The violet in the middle represents the state flower, as well as humility and modesty. The red stripe through the middle of the flag symbolizes the ratification of the 13th amendment. The blue represents the 87,110 miles of rivers and streams within Illinois borders. The green represents the prairies and farmland Illinois is known for. The yellow dot represents Springfield IL, our capital. The white represents freedom to govern ourselves



2298

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here for my whole life, so did my dad while he was growing up. I've lived in both Evanston and Chicago, and my dad has lived in Springfield, Evanston, Chicago. I've been to school here, elementary, middle, High-school, and I love the area.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The middle circle is to represent the symbol of the Illineuk tribe, one of the indigenous people of Illinois. The blue is from the color from the American flag, and the white is to represent Chicago - the windy city. The symbol also represents the sun, which signifies a new day, where everyone here is accepted and welcomed.



2299

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Evanston, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 14 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag highlights Illinois' relationships with its largest city (Chicago), its major bodies of water on the right (Lake Michigan) and left (Mississippi river) sides of the state, and the vast green areas in the state. The 6 pointed red star represents Chicago, the left blue area represents the Mississippi River, the right blue area represents Lake Michigan, and the green in the middle represents the fact that Illinois is the prairie state.



2300

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Evanston Illinois, and am currently a sophomore at Evanston Township Highschool.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has three blue stars, representing the 3 major bodies of water in illinois. There is red in one of the sears represents the state bird, Cardinal. The purple represents the state flower, violet. The blue background represents justice and freedom. The green represents the rural areas of illinois.



2301

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the blue background represents lake Michigan, the green stripe represents Illinois's nickname of the "Prairie State" . and the yellow circle represents our farmland and how we are known for growing corn, with the corn in the middle as well.



2302

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and I lived in chicago for 14 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning is suppose to represent the aspects of our state i choose each color to represent that and used the contrast of the blues to show the lake and skyline. I choose the yellow in the half circle to represent the crops but also the changing of season and to complement the skyline. Illion is a great state but i believe Chicago is the heart of the state and i wanted to use elements of the Chicago flag.



2303



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and grew up here. I've been to many different states and countries, and none of them compare to the home state I am from.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is the 3 colors of the state: red, white, and blue. With a cardinal with a violet in its mouth, these are both representations of Illinois as they are the state flower and bird. This, with the blue, stands for Lake Michigan.

2304



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Evanston.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star refers to Chicago's flag, and the color of it is violet, for our state's flower. The deep blue is the lake, the three light blue lines represent Illinois's three big rivers, and the green represents the prairies.

2305



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois. I do not have much opinion on the Illinois stuff; I'm just not that interested in the law and government side of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The reason why there are many shades of blue is due to the fact that it represents the lake and the rivers while also showing how liberal is the state of Illinois. The deer means justice because of how strict the laws can be in Illinois, and the reason why it also represents hope is due to Illinois being a sanctuary state for immigrants since things and jobs are easy to obtain no matter the race or immigration status. The stars just represent the 17 districts that are within Illinois.

2306

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here. I want to go here for college and hopefully come back and live here. I have most of my memories here and it is the place I consider home. It is the place I know I can come back to. I wish to make more memories here and I don't want my time here to come to an end. I am a fan of all sports and I am proud to be a Chicago sports team fan.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted my flag to represent the things that are important and make up the state of Illinois. The cardinal is the state bird and one that I saw a lot growing up. The antler is meant to represent the White Tailed Deer which is the state animal. The green is to represent the fields of corn that make up most of the state. The blue is to represent Lake Michigan and how it doesn't touch a lot of the state but is still very meaningful for the state and the people who live here.

2307

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and grew up in Evanston. Im a sophomore student at Evanston Township High School

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red symbolizes the freedom of our people and the ratification of the 13th amendment. The blue represents the 87,110 miles of rivers and streams within Illinois borders. The green represents the prairies and farmland Illinois is known for. The yellow Springfield IL, our capital, and the star shape represents Chicago, our largest city.



2308



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Evanston, Illinois. I go to school in Illinois. My family lives here, and my friends live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag was to have a big symbol which is the lighthouse and have the lakes, sand, and lights to the north and south surrounding all of it because the lighthouse is an important symbol here.

2309



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the water in Illinois, such as Lake Michigan, and the rivers bordering the state. The green represents the plains in the state. The yellow, six-pointed star represents farming and agriculture as it is a big part of the state's success, and the cardinal in the middle is a tribute to the state's bird, the cardinal.

2310



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the historic city of Chicago, which is the biggest city in the state of Illinois. I attended elementary, middle, and high school in Evanston, which is in Illinois. I have made the majority of my memories in the state. Lake Michigan is very special to me. I attend Evanston Township High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green being on the left and blue on the right represents Lake Michigan being on the east. The star being there represents the star Illinois has on the American flag, as it's the 21st state. The yellow represents the farms and the corn grown. Lake Michigan is a major part of Illinois and is an important place to many.

2311



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Chicago. when I was six I moved to a northern suburb. I've lived there with my family ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the nature In Illinois, While the red stars represent Chicago. The blue stands for beautiful Lake Michigan. The two green stripes also represent Illinois's two main rivers. The Ohio, and the Mississippi.

2312



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in illinois. I have not much opinion on the illinois stuff just iam not that interested with the law andd government side of illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The reason why there are many shades of blue is because it represents the lake and the rivers while also showing how liberal the state of Illinois is. The red cardinal represents imagination since Illinois is a sanctuary state, and jobs are easy to obtain no matter the race or immigration status. The stars represent the 17 districts that are within Illinois. while the green leaves mean health, prosperity, and life.

2313

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and I've lived here my whole life. I was born and raised in Evanston Illinois and I've had a pretty normal life living here. I've seen how much things have changed such as land, money, nature, climate, and more. Growing up in Illinois, there is not that much that i've seen but there are some things that i've found out when researching and wanted to include in my flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag, I had wanted to show the main areas in Illinois such as Chicago and how I could incorporate it into the flag of Illinois, along with showing the nature of it and having the red bird as the center point because animals are typically something that people use as mascots. I wanted to represent the nature and land that comes within the state, which leads me to the green on the sides which also brings me to the blue lines next to the green ones, represents the greens.

2314



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois all my life, moved to various towns inside of it and only left it a few times. I know Illinois as my home and a place where I belong.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag originally means the land and freedom Illinois has obtained. The stars showcasing how long ago we gained freedom and the green background showcasing the land, it's a simple design that can also be interpreted in many different ways for Illinois.

2315



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois all my life, moved to various towns inside of it and only left it a few times. I know Illinois as my home and a place where I belong.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag originally means the land and freedom Illinois has obtained. The stars showcasing how long ago we gained freedom and the green background showcasing the land, it's a simple design that can also be interpreted in many different ways for Illinois.

2316



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois all my life, moved to various towns inside of it and only left it a few times. I know Illinois as my home and a place where I belong.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The mountains show the freedom we gained as a state and the ability to experience and roam the beauty of Illinois. The yellow star mixes along meaning Never giving up, since as a state Illinois doesn't give up.

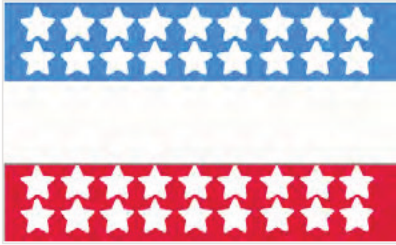
2317

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design is made up of red, white, and blue which are the colors of the US flag but also a mixture of the colors Springfield's flag colors and Chicago's. The Red represents the Chicago Fire. White is for the Windy City aka Chicago which is a city our state is most known for. Blue represents Urban Blues which is a genre of Music that was created in Illinois. There are 18 stars on the top and bottom which together will be 1818 which is the year Illinois was founded.



2318

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston. My mom and grandma were also born here. I plan to go to school in Illinois at least then venture out. I'd like my kids to grow up in Evanston as well but maybe I should start my family somewhere new.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted the flag to include most of the symbols of Illinois in a more simplistic way. I feel the colors mesh well together and it would be recognizable from far. The blue stripe represents Lake Michigan. The green stripes represent the Greenland. The red stripe represents a cardinal. The yellow circle in the middle of the flower represents the sun and the middle of the flower. The purple flower shape represents the state flower.



2319

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is all things related to Illinois like the cardinal represents the state bird and the flower represents the state flower a violet and then the Chicago skyline because Chicago is a big part of Illinois and then the word Illinois is supposed to look like the state and the words "Land of Lincoln" is the state motto.



2320

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for over 20 years. I currently live and work in Rock Island.

Previously, I lived in Chicago and Elmwood Park. My wife and I have lived in Illinois since we were married, and our three children have lived in Illinois their entire lives.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Top trapezoid represents the pirogue & symbolizes IL's history & transportation.

Bottom trapezoid represents Cahokia Mounds and honors native people; also

symbolizes IL's contributions to the world. Sunburst in middle is from current flag

(modified) & also represents Lincoln's 2nd inaugural ("the sun * burst forth"). The sun

symbolizes a bright future (like current flag), peace, & unity. 20 stars + sun for IL as

21st state. Amber color for prairies & farms. Blue for lakes, rivers, & patriotism.



2321

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in IL and live here now. I'm a local artist in Rogers Park in

Chicago. For my art, I use mostly natural materials that I collected locally. I love

living close to Lake Michigan and visit often to enjoy the peace it provides and to

look for birds along the shoreline.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design represents the topography of the State of IL. Starting on the left with

the Mississippi River with boats; the Farm Fields; the City of Chicago; the IL River

with fish; the IL Prairies; Lake Michigan; A Cardinal IL State bird and the Forests of

IL. My idea was to show all the natural wonders, resources and commerce of our

great State. My flag is a rough sketch in 3 colors, meant to have a white background.



2322

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for over 20 years. I currently live and work in Rock Island.

Previously, I lived in Chicago and Elmwood Park. My wife and I have lived in Illinois since we were married, and our three children have lived in Illinois their entire lives.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Top semi-oval represents the pirogue & symbolizes IL's history & transportation.

Bottom semi-oval represents Cahokia Mounds and honors native people; also

symbolizes IL's contributions to the world. Sunburst in middle is from current flag (modified) & also represents Lincoln's 2nd inaugural ("the sun * burst forth"). The sun symbolizes a bright future (like current flag), peace, & unity. 20 stars + sun for IL as 21st state. Amber color for prairies & farms. Blue for lakes, rivers, & patriotism.

2323

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for over 20 years. I currently live and work in Rock Island.

Previously, I lived in Chicago and Elmwood Park. My wife and I have lived in Illinois since we were married, and our three children have lived in Illinois their entire lives.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Top semi-oval represents the pirogue & symbolizes IL's history & transportation.

Bottom semi-oval represents Cahokia Mounds and honors native people; also

symbolizes IL's contributions to the world. Sunburst in middle is inspired by sun in current flag. The sun represents Lincoln's 2nd inaugural ("the sun * burst forth") and symbolizes a bright future (like current flag), peace, & unity. Sun has 21 rays for IL as 21st state. Amber color for prairies & farms. Blue for lakes, rivers, & patriotism.

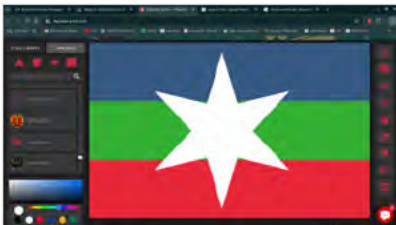
2324

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and have lived here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has a classic Chicago star because Chicago is the largest city in Illinois. It also has the colors red, green, and blue.



2325

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Rockford, Illinois, and take pride in the state's history and contributions, particularly the fact that Lucy Derwent, a member of the Rockford chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, designed the first Illinois state flag. My design work reflects my deep admiration for Illinois' agricultural and industrial legacy, which inspires my commitment to creating a flag that honors the state's heritage.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

"The Heart of Agriculture" Green dominates 75% of the flag, representing the fact that 75% of Illinois' land is farmland, emphasizing the state's agricultural pride. Blue symbolizes the hardworking blue-collar workforce, while white connects to the colors of previous flags. The circle of stars represents Illinois as the 21st state, with the top star symbolizing Illinois. Four large blue stars honor the four presidents from Illinois: Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Ronald Reagan, and Obama.

2326

Relationship to Illinois

I've been here every since I was born and I love it. Chicago and other cities in Illinois are beautiful and amazing.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I picked the red Cardinal because that is our bird to Illinois. I chose the rising sun because it represents how Illinois and the citizens growth to build our state better.



2327



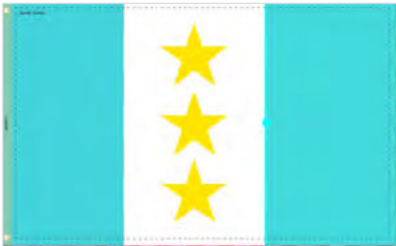
Relationship to Illinois

Im a citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Cardinal is on my flag because that's the state bird for Illinois. Same as the flower, the violet is known in Illinois. The deer there is representing the white-tailed deer known in Illinois. The building represents the city of Illinois which is Chicago. The flow of water in the middle represents a cross between Illinois and Chicago showing both sides of this state. As well as the words alongside the water is telling the power of this state and the union. It's also state motto of Illinois.

2328



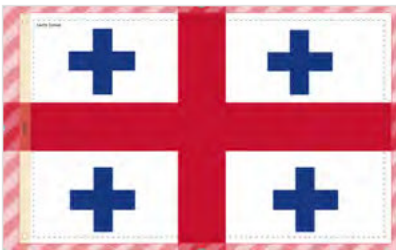
Relationship to Illinois

teacher and student

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Explain the meaning behind your flag :Start: unidad, solidaridad y armon*a entre los pueblos blue= water body's that are across illusions white= peace

2329

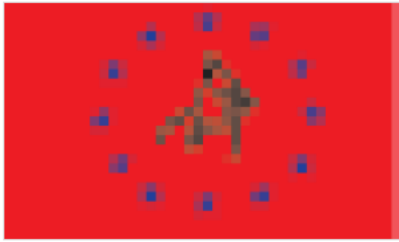


Relationship to Illinois

I love Illinois and I live in the Illinois state and I would love to make a flag for my state

Explain the meaning behind your flag

To explain the meaning of my flag, the blue color symbolizes water, sky freedom, the red represent , blood, passion, courage, and the color of life, while the white represents peace, innocence, also the color of purity, and snow.



2330

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

cardinal to represent the state bird and stars to represent other cities in Illinois



2331

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois citizen since I was five years old (am now 79).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is simply an updated version of the current flag, using a more aggressive eagle and showing the urban and rural aspects of our state in the background.



2332

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Rockford, Illinois, and take pride in the state's history and contributions, particularly the fact that Lucy Derwent, a member of the Rockford chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, designed the first Illinois state flag. My design work reflects my deep admiration for Illinois' agricultural and industrial legacy, which inspires my commitment to creating a flag that honors the state's heritage.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design honors Illinois's rich heritage with green stripes symbolizing agriculture, a cardinal representing the state bird that carries a violet, the state flower. The black pointed frame pays tribute to the Illiniwek tribe, the original inhabitants of this land, honoring their legacy and cultural significance. This design respects the deep connection between the land and its first peoples, celebrating their history while embracing the state's vibrant future.

2333



Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois citizen for the last 74 and a half years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The different colors of the state outline represent the diversity of races, cultures and natural resources of our state. The large word "Illinois" in upper and lower case is powerful and eye-catching without being aggressive.

2334



Relationship to Illinois

I am the design teacher at Senn High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green has historical meaning because Illinois 3/4 of the states land are well suited for growing crops. Blue represents the waterways of Illinois (Mississippi River, Illinois River, Lake Michigan) and has historical value. I chose the common violet flower because it shows great symbolism by being Illinois' state flower.

2335



Relationship to Illinois

Im a resident

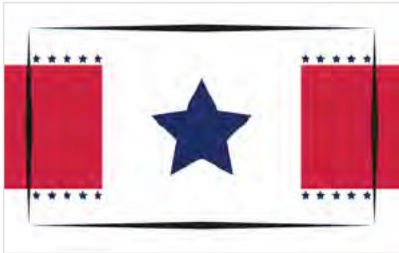
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors split the flag into 3 parts the yellow means crops and corn green means the great plains and blue represents the lake and water the deer is Illinois state animal

2336

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Rockford, Illinois, and I take pride in my state's rich history and cultural heritage. I'm particularly inspired by Lucy Derwent, a member of the Rockford chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who designed the first state flag. This connection fuels my passion for honoring Illinois's agricultural roots and the Indigenous peoples who originally inhabited the land through my flag designs.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design features a large block "I," occupying 75% of the flag's area, symbolizing Illinois's composition of 75% farmland. Surrounding it are 20 smaller stars, representing the states that preceded Illinois as the 21st state, depicted by the prominent blue star at the center. The sharp triangular framing pays homage to the Native American tribes that originally inhabited this land, drawing inspiration from the visual elements found in 18th-century hide paintings.

2337

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the state of Illinois. The green and yellow in the background are the prairie. The blue around Illinois are the lakes and rivers. In Illinois, the star of Illinois is in the middle of the name.



2338

Relationship to Illinois

██████ is a student in a middle school in Northbrook, IL and he lives in Northbrook.

██████ is ██████ years old.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

He decided to include the state seal and Abraham because he thinks that history is important to acknowledge in the state's flag. He liked the bold colors to represent the people of Illinois and its beauty.



2339

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship from Illinois is that it's my community and I live in Illinois so it's a part of my identity. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. My two favorite cities in Illinois are Chicago and Evanston. I have been to both cities plenty of times and I also live in Evanston.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of my flag has a lighthouse that represents Illinois. I picked a light blue color because it represents Chicago and I picked a bright yellow because I liked how it looked with the blue and it matched it. I really liked the designs behind the lighthouse because it makes the flag stand out and also I didn't really add to many colors I just added plain light blue and yellow.



2340

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The shield represents that Illinois was the 21st state and that we are strong. The water on the east is for Lake Michigan and the water on the west is for the Mississippi River. The corn represents farms. One red star is for when we got our state from the French, the next one is for all of the prairies. Then finally, the last star is for the indigenous tribes that lived in Illinois prairies. The corn represents the farms and crops. The eagle represents the state seal.



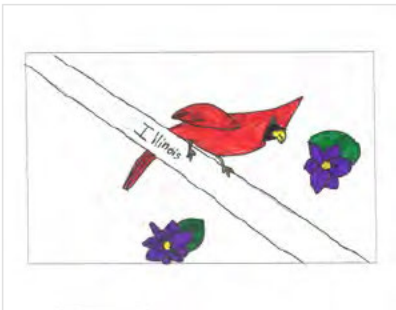
2341

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the state of Illinois. I chose the cardinal because northern cardinals were the backyard bird watcher's favorite bird. I drew the stripe to represent the sword my grandfather used while he served in the navy in World War Two and survived. Finally, I used the violet because it is the state's flower.



2342

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and I go to school in Evanston Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of my flag represents the original colors in a different form, it provides a dark blue color which represents the many rivers, the orange color which represents Illinois many universities, and yellow which is represented in the original flag as the sunset, purple which represent the seal flower, and the shield which is represented as the original flag as the first thirteen states.



2343

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my whole life. I was born in Evanston and have lived in this area throughout my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three different shades of blue are used to represent the lakes and rivers of Illinois. The dark blue is supposed to represent Lake Michigan. The medium blue is supposed to represent the Illinois River. The light blue is supposed to represent the Mississippi River. The Red star in the middle is used to represent Chicago. Since on the Chicago flag there are five red stars I thought to add one since Chicago is a major part of Illinois.



2344

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston and I've lived here my whole life. I went to Dawes elementary school, Chute middle school, and now I'm at ETHS. I love the sense of community in Illinois, and I'm proud to be living here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The lighthouse is a symbol that really stands out, and it would make our flag more recognizable as the Illinois flag. The two yellow lights coming out of my lighthouse represent the sun and the prairies. The purple in my flag represents our state flower, the violet, which I think is a really nice flower and the color works great on the flag. The blue represents Lake Michigan, which is known across Illinois, and outside the state as well.



2345

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago, Illinois for graduate school 4 years ago and have loved the state ever since!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue on the bottom represents our great waterways (Lake Michigan and the Mississippi). The grey right above symbolizes the steel of the railroads and the industries that built our state. The rolling yellow hills stand for the prairies. Above, in a union blue sky, the cardinal, our state bird, flies upward and onward!



2346

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here all my life. My dad went to Kellogg business school of NU and now works in Chicago as does my mother. I have taken a field trip to Springfield and saw congress in session.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is supposed to be in a similar color scheme to Chicago's to not forget it but it still is supposed to focus on illinois as a whole and reference its history and geography as well as representing that illinois still has a bright future



2347



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the state of Illinois. In this flag the background represents the prairie, the green represents forests, the blue is Lake Michigan, and the yellow is also prairie. I drew 21 stars because Illinois is the 21st state. I put a deer and cardinal because they are state symbols.

2348



Relationship to Illinois

I wasn't even born here, but for the most part of my life I was raised here. I came from Michigan just before grade school, and moved to Glenview which is a close town to Evanston. Then for kindergarten after about a year in Glenview I moved to Evanston where I have lived since. All of my friends that I have grown up with and created a lot of great memories from live in Evanston too. I just really like Evanston as a place of education, a place to travel to, and most definitely, a place to raise

Explain the meaning behind your flag

As I already talked about the meanings of the three stripes of the flags and the flower, I'll tell you why I did each. I put them in arranged stripes to make them attractive to the eye, to appeal to the person looking at it. I went through many different ways of where to put the flower. I decided on putting only half of it on the flag, and I enlarged the flag quite a bit to make what it represents show out more. What I mean is that nature means a lot to me, and I think that in a flag well really

2349

Relationship to Illinois

I wasn't even born here, but for the most part of my life I was raised here. I came from Michigan just before grade school, and moved to Glenview which is a close town to Evanston. Then for kindergarten after about a year in Glenview I moved to Evanston where I have lived since. All of my friends that I have grown up with and created a lot of great memories from live in Evanston too. I just really like Evanston as a place of education, a place to travel to, and most definitely, a place to raise



Explain the meaning behind your flag

As I already talked about the meanings of the three stripes of the flags and the flower, I'll tell you why I did each. I put them in arranged stripes to make them attractive to the eye, to appeal to the person looking at it. I went through many different ways of where to put the flower. I decided on putting only half of it on the flag, and I enlarged the flag quite a bit to make what it represents show out more. What I mean is that nature means a lot to me, and I think that in a flag well really

2350

Relationship to Illinois

i was born in illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

my flag is a redesign on the Illinois flag i chose the blue stripes because of the three rivers and each part of the white represents the north, east, south, and west. The yellow circle in the middle is supposed to represent the penny for the "Land of Lincoln". The little plant in the middle is supposed to represent the prairie because our state is also known as the prairie state

2351

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and then moved to Evanston

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white star represents Springfield which is our capital so it is the bigger star. The yellow star beneath Springfield represents Chicago as its not the capital of Illinois but it is very important towards the state. The blue represents lake Michigan and it taking up most of the flag represents its size and importance towards Illinois. The red represents a cardinal which is the state bird of Illinois and it being a line represents a cardinal flying over the lake.



2352

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston and I've lived here my whole life. I went to Dawes elementary school, Chute middle school, and now I'm at ETHS. I love the sense of community in Illinois, and I'm proud to be living here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 6 pointed start represents Chicago, as 6 pointed stars are on Chicago's flag. The purple represents our state flower, the violet. The yellow represents the sun. The blue outlining my star represents Lake Michigan.



2353

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois 5 years ago and since then it has been my home. I go to school in Illinois, I have friends in Illinois, and my live for the past 5 years has been mostly surrounded in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A white oak tree because throughout the years, around 20 different species of white oak tree has been seen in Illinois The blue color represents the rivers in Illinois The blue lines are thick because Illinois is bordered by 880 miles of river The blue line is diagonal because it means to show that rivers are long



2354

Relationship to Illinois

I wasn't even born here, but for the most part of my life I was raised here. I came from Michigan just before grade school, and moved to Glenview which is a close town to Evanston. Then for kindergarten after about a year in Glenview I moved to Evanston where I have lived since. All of my friends that I have grown up with and created a lot of great memories from live in Evanston too. I just really like Evanston as a place of education, a place to travel to, and a place to raise your kids.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

So basically for the deer I think that the deer is a obviously like important animal for Illinois. I also think it just symbolizes wildlife as a whole in Illinois which defeinetly means a lot to me so thats also why I put it. For the stripes, I put them in arranged stripes to make them attractive to the eye, to appeal to the person looking at it. the yellow stripes represents the beaches in il. the purple stripes represents the great lake michigan, and the green represents the nature.

2355

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when I was six years old with my family in hopes of joining my uncle in America. Illinois is a place where my family could escape familial struggles along with financial problems. Illinois was a place where my mother and father became nurses and where my family escaped our financial struggles.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents how Illinois came to be as a state and the war and tribulations that came with becoming a state. The stripes show Native American culture along with Settler culture. Essentially the stripes show a great history of how Illinois developed their land and grew to the state it currently is. Each stripe shows a historical event that was critical to Illinois' growth, events such as slavery and civil war. This flag shows how Illinois was able to withstand many disasters and grow.

2356



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Hyde Park raised in Evanston

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In this flag, I tried to represent Lake Michigan a lot. I did 2 big lines of blue and a green line in the middle to represent the wildlife that lives in the state too. I did a red star to represent the cardinal.

2357



Relationship to Illinois

i moved to illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that all of the places in Illinois have a special and important place.

2358



Relationship to Illinois

i live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the dark blue represents the mississippi the star chicago the yellow farming the light blue farming and the white suburbs

2359



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the state of Illinois. There are first some mountains on the top to represent landscapes. Then in the middle is the Illinois flag right now. On the the bottom there is Lake Michigan. I put 50 stars on the flag and I wrote Illinois on the top. This is my Illinois flag.

2360



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents Illinois because the cardinal is the state bird, the violet is the state flower, and the oak tree is the state tree. The blue line below and above the cardinal represents the rivers in Illinois. The leaves represent beautiful spring in Illinois. Overall my flag represents the nature in Illinois.

2361



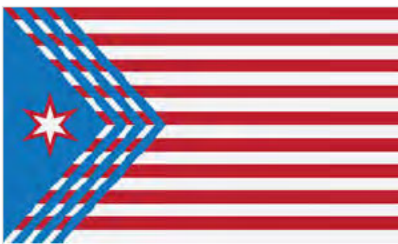
Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life and the places I have lived in is Chicago and Evanston I have Lived in chicago for about 2 years and then I moved to Evanston and have lived in Evanston for about 16 years and ever since I have lived here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the cardinal to represent the state flag and the green how much nature there is in Illinois

2362



Relationship to Illinois

I have been raised in Evanston, Illinois since I was 3 years old. My mother was bor and raised in Chicago, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents how Illinois is a prideful member of the United States. It has a powerful and intricate look. The rivers flow through each stripe and Lake Michigan dominates the frame.- Red, white, and blue represent the USA colors.- The stars represent Chicago and Springfield.- The 18 red and white stripes represent the year of 1818, which is when Illinois was established as a state.- The big blue triangle represents Lake Michigan- The 3 blue stripes represent the Mississippi, Chicago

2363

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois. I used a rainbow background because I thought that it was appealing to the eye. I have an eagle and American flag in the middle because Illinois is in the U.S.A. On the sides, there is the Mississippi River because the Mississippi River runs through Illinois.



2364

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois. I drew the state of Illinois in the middle with an American flag in the middle because Illinois is in America. I did a white background. One of the two stars represents when Illinois became a state. The other star represents when the Ojibwa and the Odawa lived there. Lastly, I did a white background because I wanted to keep it simple.



2365

Relationship to Illinois

Almost my whole family was born here including me and my parents lived here for 30 years. This state is my favorite and it's the only state that feels like home to me. I like the weather and the activities, food and people here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents lake Michigan and for me the color blue represents stability in our cities and state. I chose a 9 pointed star to represent Love, transportation, peace, justice, diversity, kindness, appreciation, loyalty and respect. The white in my flag represents beginnings because in Illinois there's a lot of opportunities to start something new and to find opportunities.



2366



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the state of Illinois. The top hat is for the state nickname "Land of Lincoln." The five circles are to represent the Great Lakes which are important to Illinois because our state is connected to Lake Michigan. The red background represents our state bird, the cardinal.

2367



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois and only been to other parts of Illinois during my life. My whole family, including extended family, is from Illinois and most still live here to this day.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Each blue stripe represents a body of water that exists in Illinois. The middle is the Mississippi River being the largest, with the left being the Chicago River (right next to the Chicago Star) and the right being Lake Michigan. The white star is meant to symbolize Springfield, the state's capital. The green stripes represent grass, as Illinois is known as the Prairie State.

2368



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois because it includes a cardinal in the center because that is the state bird. On the left, I added a blue violet because that is the state flower. On the right, I added a white tailed deer because that is Illinois's state animal. I wrote Illinois at the top because it's the Illinois state flag.

2369



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 6 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

- The red represents the state bird (Cardinal)-The yellow represents the sun rising-
The blue represents lake Michigan

2370



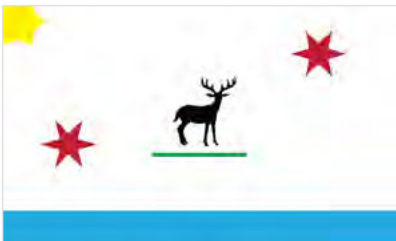
Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Evanston.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chicago is an essential city in Illinois. It's the number one thing Illinois is known for, that is why I kept the same pattern as the Chicago flag on my flag, and then I put an Oak tree because It is not only a symbol of strength and endurance but also plays a crucial role in the state's ecosystems and biodiversity.

2371



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Explain the meaning behind your flag

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2372

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Evanston, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Red: Chicago fire it happened in only one city but it caused the whole state to change - Blue Illinois has 1,095 miles of navigable waterways that either border or pass through the state. These waterways provide the state with connections to both the Atlantic Ocean. Lake Michigan itself is the largest public drinking water supply in the state, serving nearly 6.6 million people. - Dark red All the people who die in tragedies like Cherry Mine Disaster * 1909, Charleston Riot * 1864, Eastland Disa



2373

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Illinois my whole life and I love it here can't imagine living anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my flag I wanted to highlight all the amazing features of Illinois in a simple yet robust flag. The blue on the top half of the flag represents Lake Michigan, a natural wonder of Illinois. The yellow on the bottom represents Illinois' many great beaches on the Lake Michigan shoreline. The orange circle in the middle represents the rising sun over Lake Michigan and the beach.



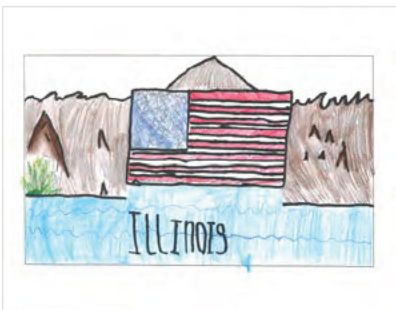
2374

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois. In the middle, there is an American flag because Illinois is in America. There are mountains because of the mountains in Illinois. The lake represents Lake Michigan that runs around the edge of Illinois. Finally, there is a cornfield in the left corner to represent the corn in Illinois. That is my Illinois flag.



2375



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in illinois my whole life and i love it here, couldnt imagine living anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents all the parts of illinois and its beauty. The blue on the top half of the flag represents lake michigan on of illinois great natural features. The yellow on the bottom half represents illinois many beaches and vast coastline. The orange circle in the middle represents the sun rising over the lake and illinois beaches.

2376



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design is referencing the United States flag because Illinois is part of the USA and based off of the American flag. The cardinal in the middle is to represent the state bird. The cardinal is perched atop the state tree, The White Oak, and the colors of the stripes are to represent Lake Michigan and the Prairie State. The outline of Illinois represents where we come from.

2377



Relationship to Illinois

I live in illinois and I don't really like the flag that much.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the star in the middle represents of the state of Illinois, the blue rectangle above represents the sky, the brown rectangle at the bottom represents the soil, the thin light blue strip in the middle represents the water.

2378

Relationship to Illinois

Almost my whole family was born here including me and my parents lived here for 30 years This state is my favorite and it's the only state that feels like home to me. I like the weather and the activities, food and people here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents lake Michigan and for me the color blue represents stability in our cities and state -I chose a 4 pointed star pointed star to represent Love, transportation, peace and-the white in my flag represents beginnings because in illinois theres a lot of opportunities to start something new and to find opportunities



2379

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents all of the people of Illinois. The yellow dot represents white people and the brown dot represents black people. The green and red dot represent Christian people and the blue star represents Jewish people. The green represents the army and the red and blue represent United States which Illinois is a part of. The yellow and brown stripes represent the cultures of people from every country who are in Illinois. They also represent being kind and treating people fairly.



2380

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents Illinois because the cardinal is the state bird. Next to the cardinal is a violet flower which is the state flower. Above and below the cardinal and the violet is water which represents the rivers in Illinois. Overall, I think my flag represents the nature in Illinois.



Relationship to Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Relationship to Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the flag I designed, I used the Illinois Centennial Flag as inspiration. I used the same colors, centered the single white star, and removed the Free-State and Slave-State stars. As for the Black Border around the flag, I came up with a simple geometric outline based on the Illini symbols as seen in items from the Illinois Confederation. The reason behind this is that Illinois's early history and a lot of our placenames can be attributed to the Native Americans that were here before us.

2383

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois can be summed up in one simple yet meaningful phrase: "Illinois is my Home." Not only was I born here in 2000, but I have lived here all my life. I truly believe that contained within our borders are some of the most remarkable people. I am proud to call myself an Illinoisan, and I am even prouder to participate in its ever-evolving history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

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2384

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the flag I designed, I had a red base but used the Illinois Centennial Flag as inspiration. I centered the single white star, and removed the Free-State and Slave-State stars. As for the Border around the flag, I came up with a simple geometric outline based on the Illini symbols as seen in items from the Illinois Confederation. The reason behind this is that Illinois's early history and a lot of our placenames can be attributed to the Native Americans that were here before us.



2385

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois. Graduated High School and college in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Yellow & green bars for sun and ground in Illinois. Corn represents a major crop. Eagles reside here. Grant and Lincoln Presidents of US. Grant also Civil War Commander, accepted Lee's surrender. Tall building from Chicago skyline. State of Illinois known as "Prairie State". Soy bean, another major crop in crook of letter "S".



2386

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun shines bright and a flower always blooms.



2387

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - This design is being submitted by Ms. Anderson, Social Studies teacher at Cuba High School, on behalf of her student [REDACTED].

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - [REDACTED] completed this drawing in her Illinois History class.



2388

Relationship to Illinois

I have been living in Illinois for 16 years. My husband and my son are born in Illinois. I am submitting this design on behalf of my 6 years old son. We helped him with the ideas, but the design is his.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background of the flag is blue representing Lake Michigan. The Willis Tower symbolizes the urban aspects of the state. The corn represents the agricultural communities. The eagle and resemblance of the US flag is to show the association to the USA.



2389

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived, studied, and worked in Illinois since 2018. I moved here from Arkansas and have no intentions in returning as I've found a home I love here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It features the state bird, state butterfly, and state flower all entangled into an embrace.



2390

Relationship to Illinois

I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The violet is our state flower and represents faithfulness to our roots. It combines red and blue, showing a unity between both the political parties, as well as the harmony of the rural and urban areas. The yellow in the background represents corn. Illinois is 75% farmland, and produces almost the most amount of corn in our country, second only to Iowa. The yellow evokes feeling of joy and energy. It ties back to the sun in our current flag, which represents a bright future ahead for our state.



2391

Relationship to Illinois

Parent

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bottom right side has the blue lake of Lake Michigan. The bottom left side has a grass field with the state flower of Violets. The birds are eagles. The bottom right also has the road of Lake Shore Drive.



2392

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago, Illinois 4 years ago and have loved the state ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two blue stripes on the ends symbolize the waterway borders of the state, Lake Michigan and the Mississippi. In the middle stands the Statue of the Republic from the 1893 World's Fair. She is bordered by 21 stars, as Illinois is the 21st state. The year 1818, when Illinois entered the union, is printed below.



2393

Relationship to Illinois

I am a descendant of former Illinois Representative and US President Abraham Lincoln.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design is based off the shield on the seal of Illinois as well as the US flag, harkening back to the Illinois' important Unionist tradition as the home state of Abraham Lincoln. The light blue stripes represent the rivers Mississippi, Rock, Illinois, Kaskaskia, Ohio, and their respective tributaries. The red stripes represent Illinois' agricultural regions. The dark blue represents Lake Michigan. The obscured star represents Chicago, evoking the image of a skyline rising over the lakeshore.

2394

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the Lakeview neighborhood of Chicago and raised in the south suburbs in Homewood, IL. I currently live on the northwest side of Chicago in Norwood Park with my wife and two daughters. I teach art and design at Evanston Township High School and I'm currently in my 14th year of teaching.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design recognizes urban, suburban, and rural Illinois. The red star symbolizes Chicago and draws a connection to the Chicago flag to create unity in our state's branding identity. The compass star represents Springfield, our capital. The three blue stripes symbolize our waterways: 1. Lake Michigan, 2. our rivers, and 3. our canal systems. One gold stripe symbolizes our native people and prairies, while the other gold stripe symbolizes grain, corn, and our farming communities.

2395

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and both of my parents are from here as well. I love learning about local history and culture in the state, and the scenery in Illinois is awesome. It's cool to see everything from huge cities to rural areas where all that's around is the land and yourself.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The large dark blue curve on the top is meant to represent Illinois' western border, the Mississippi river. The lighter blue/cyan area in the middle of the flag represents the vast sky over Illinois. The green on the bottom is meant to represent Illinois' agricultural roots, with there being 21 plants to represent that Illinois was the 21st state admitted to the union.

2396

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here all my life. I am currently a teacher in Oak Lawn, Illinois



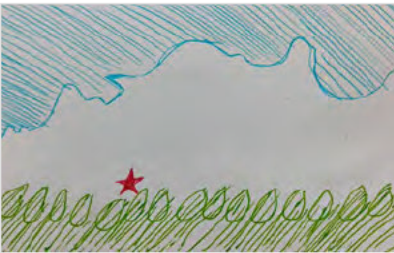
Explain the meaning behind your flag

From my student: Illinois is best known for a LOT of land. Illinois is known for a city named the Windy city which has a GIANT BEAN so everyone can take pictures. The Willis tower is so tall a LOT of workers around the community helped to build it! Today a lots of people take pictures to earn money in fact some pictures are famous! The purpose for this flag is because as I was looking around I saw a lot of grass, flowers, insects, bugs, and people...a real community.

2397

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and both of my parents are from here as well. I love learning about local history and culture in the state, and the scenery in Illinois is awesome. It's cool to see everything from huge cities to rural areas where all that's around is the land and yourself.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue at the top of the flag is in the simplified silhouette of the Mississippi river, which I find one of Illinois' most iconic features. The light blue represents water, and blue is associated with a calm and tranquil feeling which I feel fits this state well. The light green at the bottom of the flag represents farming, with the plant pattern to add interest to the flag. The white in the middle of the flag is a neutral space, with the red star representing the state capital.

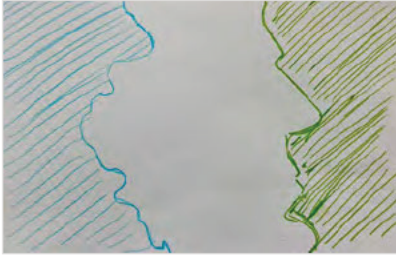
2398

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and both of my parents are from here as well. I love learning about local history and culture in the state, and the scenery in Illinois is awesome. It's cool to see everything from huge cities to rural areas where all that's around is the land and yourself.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue and green are a calm set of colors, usually used in relation to our environment. Blue represents the rivers and lakes of Illinois, while green represents grass. Blue is used on the left of the flag with a silhouette of the Mississippi river, and green is used on the right with a silhouette of Abraham Lincoln's profile. The right side of the flag can represent two of Illinois' names: "The Land of Lincoln" and "The Prairie State".



2399

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in southern Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I simply tried to keep the colors to a minimum with a Chicago skyline and a farmer represented. These are the icons of Illinois.



2400

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a proud Illinoisan who relocated to Chicago in 2002 from Austin, Texas. While I was born in the Philippines, both my partner and our teen daughter were born here. Illinois is considered our family's permanent home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are many things that could be used to represent Illinois but I chose to highlight the state's slogan. Illinois has long been known as the "Land of Lincoln" so a striking, dynamic silhouette of Abraham Lincoln serves as the focal point. A blue background helps to provide contrast, while also representing bodies of water (the Illinois River, Mississippi River, and Lake Michigan). This design would be highly recognizable and memorable, easily distinguishing our flag from other states.



2401

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a proud Illinoisan who relocated to Chicago in 2002 from Austin, Texas. While I was born in the Philippines, both my partner and our teen daughter were born here. Illinois is considered our family's permanent home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design option is clean and modern yet still features traditional flag elements. The top of the flag features three stars: one stands for the 102 counties in Illinois; another symbolizes the Illiniwek Indians**the first Native American tribe to inhabit what would become our state; the last star represents our prairie grasslands. A blue wave moves across the bottom of the flag, representing the Mississippi River, Ohio River, and Lake Michigan.

2402

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident both born and raised in Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The "Penny Flag" has an "I" as its centerpiece which is adorned by 21 stars, representing Illinois' annexation number. In the eye of the "I" is a silhouette of Abraham Lincoln's appearance, similar to the one on a US penny. This represents Illinois' greatest leader and serves as a reminder that an Illinois mind can have a great effect on our whole country. The background of the flag is a dark green, which represents both the agricultural and natural lands that are widespread across our state.

2403



Relationship to Illinois

I'm 48 years old and was born and raised in Illinois. I was born in Canton, IL, and I married and raised my children in the same town. We have enjoyed living in Canton and try to stay active and support the community and small businesses in the town.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose to use the white tailed deer to symbolize purity and innocence. They are often associated with respect for the natural order, and in many cultures it is a symbol spiritual authority. I also used pumpkins and corn to symbolize Illinois agriculture. Agriculture is a vital part of Illinois economy and job creation! Pumpkins symbolize abundance and prosperity and the corn symbolizes unity, and has been a crucial part of Juneteenth celebrations. The sun symbolizes life and energy.

2404



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life, coming from a suburb of Chicago, I have seen my fair share of the city life, and of the wonders throughout the state from being on trips to starved rock and visiting Springfield. Seeing the Mississippi River when you cross over to Iowa and Missouri is a sight that I love to see. I have a lot of pride for my state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Navy side triangle represents the shape of Illinois, simplified. Navy is for the US Naval training in Illinois. The Green stripe is for Illinois's Agriculture. The yellow stripe is for the prairies (Illinois being the prairie state). The blue stripe up top is for Lake Michigan bordering our state, as well as the blue of Chicago, a similar color to their flag, the blue also represents the sky looking over Illinois. The Seal is featured in the triangle for identification and timelessness.

2405

Relationship to Illinois

I'm from Utah, but Illinois has become my home. My wife and I moved here after college, planning a short stay. Ten years later, we're still here, having fallen in love with the state. We fell in love with its diversity, from Chicago's energy to peaceful prairies. We've embraced Midwestern warmth, forged lasting friendships, and built our lives here. The state's rich history, culture, and opportunities keep us rooted. What began as temporary has grown into a deep connection and chosen future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents Illinois' waterways and pays tribute to the Chicago flag. The two orange-bordered stripes stand for the railways that connect the state, symbolizing unity across communities. Their diagonal orientation reflects Illinois' progressive spirit. The three stars represent the state's three regions*north, central, and south*united by a white band that signifies harmony. The stars' seven points also celebrate Illinois as the 21st state. Orange represents industry and harvest.



2406

Relationship to Illinois

I'm from Utah, but Illinois has become my home. My wife and I moved here after college, planning a short stay. Ten years later, we're still here, having fallen in love with the state. We fell in love with its diversity, from Chicago's energy to peaceful prairies. We've embraced Midwestern warmth, forged lasting friendships, and built our lives here. The state's rich history, culture, and opportunities keep us rooted. What began as temporary has grown into a deep connection and chosen future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The state bird, the cardinal, symbolizes Illinois' vitality and forward momentum, depicted in flight, like a phoenix rising from the ashes to represent Illinois' history, progress and freedom. The golden circle embodies unity and shared prosperity, while gold itself stands for the state's rich agriculture. The deep blue background signifies stability, allowing the bright cardinal and ring to shine*reflecting how Illinois' people thrive against challenges, standing out with pride and resilience.



2407

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria as a citizen of Illinois. I grew up in the wonderful hometown of Washington and now I am attending college at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. I have always enjoyed living in the state even with the unpredictable weather. The culture and history of the state is what has made it special in my eyes.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag was made for my fictional country I created in high school for a student-created game called Geopolitics. I always enjoyed the design as purple is an underutilized color for flags. The flag features many references to the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. The two stars represent the sperm whale and the bowl of petunias. With the overall shape showing the crater left by their impact on the surface of the planet of Magrathea. Long live the Republic of Magrathea!

2408

Relationship to Illinois

While I am a resident of Colorado, Illinois has held a special place within my family history. My mother's side is Italian. Her cousins proudly ran The Cuneo Press, which operated in Chicago. It was one of the city's most prestigious and oldest presses. Additionally, the Cuneo Mansion and Gardens is based in Vernon Hills, a meaningful location for us. Printing is very important to my family, which inspired me to pursue a career in graphic design. I was highly motivated to enter this open call.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design embraces core elements found within the current flag design. While it focuses on these traditional symbols, my proposition is to modernize and stylize each of them. There are certain completely new aspects. First and foremost, the background is now blue, which celebrates the abundant water from Lake Michigan. Additionally, I removed the secondary date, 1868, which was only significant to the previous design. Finally, the symbols and typographic elements are scaled for maximum clarity.

2409

Relationship to Illinois

My family moved to Illinois when I was 5 (52 years ago), and it has been my home ever since. Growing up in the suburbs of Chicago, I went to college here (DePaul), and have raised my own family in Illinois. My daughter attended U of I in Champaign, and both of my older children still reside in the state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Old Glory Blue also represents the important waterways - Lake Michigan, the Chicago and Mississippi rivers. Orange for the state's focus on agriculture, like its leading pumpkin production. (Also a nod to our love of sports; the Bears' and Illini's color.) White light contains all the colors of the spectrum - signifying how we are a state that supports diversity. Lincoln represents the American rags-to-riches story, standing up for the oppressed, sacrificing for your country.

2410

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago. Went to grammar school and High school in Chicago. Then on to the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana. After 4 years, I spent 3 years in U.S. Navy. I worked for several companies in Chicago. I spent 21 years in the Illinois Naval Reserve mainly at the (long gone) Naval Armory at the lake front. I lived in Chicago, Oak Park, & Springfield (16 years). In May 2024, I had to move to Milwaukee for medical reasons and to be closer to my children.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Design features a symbolic blue waves for Illinois' rivers and amber for the fields of corn. The band of six stars marks significant milestones in Illinois history. No. 1 The first people - Illiniwek Indians. No. 2 Illinois discovered in 1673. No. 3 Illinois became the 21st state to enter the Union. No. 4 Abraham Lincoln inaugurated 16th. President. Won Civil War. Emancipation No. 5 The Manhattan Project. Sustained nuclear reaction, No. 6 The first black man elected President.

2411



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for the past two years, and think we have an okay flag that could be much better.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the Illinois River and Lake Michigan, and Illinois' path of progress. The red represents the banner on the Illinoisan flag which reads "State, Sovereignty, National Union", the green represents the state's liveliness, and the yellow represents the vast wheat fields of Illinois.

2412



Relationship to Illinois

I'm from Utah, but Illinois has become my home. My wife and I moved here after college, planning a short stay. Ten years later, we're still here, having fallen in love with the state. We fell in love with its diversity, from Chicago's energy to peaceful prairies. We've embraced Midwestern warmth, forged lasting friendships, and built our lives here. The state's rich history, culture, and opportunities keep us rooted. What began as temporary has grown into a deep connection and chosen future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The golden compass star symbolizes Illinois as a guiding light to the Midwest. Its leadership and its central role in the nation's railway system, with points radiating like rail lines. The three stars represent the eras of Illinois (frontier, industrial, and modern). The white band embodies unity and infrastructure, and the 21 star points honor Illinois as the 21st state. Gold signifies rich agriculture, especially corn, while blue reflects Illinois' waterways and optimistic spirit.

2413



Relationship to Illinois

I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The silhouette of the oak leaf symbolizes the strength of our state and the loyalty to our country, and connects to our state tree; the white oak. The green background represents the large amount of farmland in Illinois, as well as new beginnings and balance.

2414



Relationship to Illinois

As a nurse from Utah, I found my calling in Illinois. What began as a temporary move became a decade-long journey of care and connection. Through my patients, I've experienced Illinois' diversity and love. The resilience and warmth of those I serve touch my heart daily. Illinois' healthcare innovation keeps me professionally fulfilled, while the Midwestern spirit has forged lasting bonds beyond hospital walls. This unexpected path has become my chosen home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The abstract cardinal symbolizes Illinois' vitality and forward momentum. The three seven-pointed stars represent the state's key eras and regions, with their placement in the shape of Illinois highlighting statewide unity. The total 21 points honor Illinois as the 21st state. The blue background represents the waterways vital to Illinois' growth and reflects the hopeful, optimistic spirit of its people.

2415

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria as a citizen of Illinois. I grew up in the wonderful hometown of Washington and now I am attending college at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. I have always enjoyed living in the state even with the unpredictable weather. The culture and history of the state is what has made it special in my eyes.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The gold and green colors of the flag represent the variety of crops that can be found in the state, such as corn, soybeans, and wheat. The white center band is a reference to the white backgrounds of the old Illinois flags. The 6 pointed star is from the Chicago flag and represents the largest city in the state. While the blue within the star both represents the various bodies of water inside and around the state, such as Lake Michigan, the Illinois River, and many more.

2416

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. After attending grad school out of state for three years, I moved back to Illinois in 2014 where I am a current resident with my wife and daughter.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag sets out to tell the story of Illinois' Native History. The blue expanse evokes the vastness of the midwestern prairie sky, which is proportionally offset by a grain stalk symbolizing the natural prairie grass and the importance of Illinois' farming industry. There are 12 grain spikelets that nod to the Native tribes of the Illinois Confederation. Between each grain stem are series of 25 lines symbolizing Illinois' place in the Union, as well as the state's leadership in rail industry.

2417

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. After attending grad school out of state for three years, I moved back to Illinois in 2014 where I am a current resident with my wife and daughter.



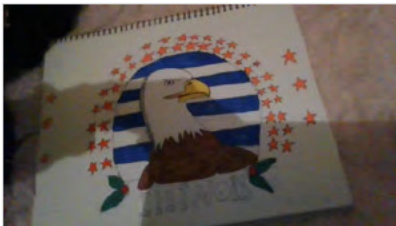
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2418

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and live in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The reason behind my flag is that I decided to put 50 stars on my flag for the 50 states in the US. I added the blue background for a nice pop to my eagle which is the main part of my flag. (NOTE: Because of the lighting and I was not able to flip my camera, the picture is not the best but I hope its clear enough to see thank you.)

2419

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. After attending grad school out of state for three years, I moved back to Illinois in 2014 where I am a current resident with my wife and daughter.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag sets out to tell the story of Illinois' Native History. The blue expanse evokes the vastness of the midwestern prairie sky, which is proportionally offset by a grain stalk symbolizing the natural prairie grass and the importance of Illinois' farming industry. There are 12 grain spikelets that nod to the Native tribes of the Illinois Confederation. Between each grain stem are series of 25 lines symbolizing Illinois' place in the Union, as well as the state's leadership in rail industry.



2420

Relationship to Illinois

To start off my name is [REDACTED]. I am 10 years old and I'm a 5th grader in Norridge, Illinois. My family and I were born in Illinois and I believe and know that I'm lucky to be here today. Right now where I live, I feel very lucky, and comfortable, and most of all safe. I am happy to be an Illinois citizen.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I added a Northern Cardinal because it is the state bird. I thought it would be nice to put it on my flag design, because sometimes in the morning I hear the Cardinal outside chirping beautifully. I also included the common blue violet because it is the state flower and because they are a pretty flower. I included the date 1818 to show when Illinois became a free state and 1868 when Illinois became a state. I also included "Land Of Lincoln" on the corner to honor Abraham Lincoln.



2421

Relationship to Illinois



I have lived in Illinois for my whole entire life and it's a good state but the only things to do in Illinois would be in Chicago as its the third biggest city in the US and Illinois is a agriculture state so its boring but it's okay and the annual tornados are something but not as bad as another states as that's why i prefer Illinois then any other state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue parts represent lake Michigan, Chicago rivers, and the Illinois river then the red stars is to represent Chicago and its history. Lastly the Wheat design is to represent the agricultural part of Illinois

2422

Relationship to Illinois



I was born and raised in Illinois. After attending grad school out of state for three years, I moved back to Illinois in 2014 where I am a current resident with my wife and daughter.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Prairie Rising symbolizes the sun rising over the vast Prairie landscape. The grain stalk in the distance embodies the importance of agriculture not only for our state, but for what it provides to the entire country. The grain carries symbolism for Illinois' Native history. There are 12 grain spikelets that honor the Native Tribes of the Illinois Confederation.

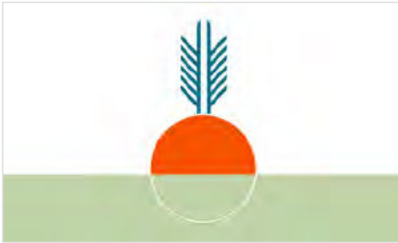
2423

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. After attending grad school out of state for three years, I moved back to Illinois in 2014 where I am a current resident with my wife and daughter.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Prairie Rising symbolizes the sun rising over the vast Prairie landscape. The grain stalk in the distance embodies the importance of agriculture not only for our state, but for what it provides to the entire country. The grain carries symbolism for Illinois' Native history. There are 12 grain spikelets that honor the Native Tribes of the Illinois Confederation.



2424

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. After attending grad school out of state for three years, I moved back to Illinois in 2014 where I am a current resident with my wife and daughter.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Prairie Rising symbolizes the sun rising over the vast Prairie landscape. The grain stalk in the distance embodies the importance of agriculture not only for our state, but for what it provides to the entire country. The grain carries symbolism for Illinois' Native history. There are 12 grain spikelets that honor the Native Tribes of the Illinois Confederation.



2425

Relationship to Illinois

When I lived in Michigan my family used to visit Illinois and Chicago. It is one of my favorite places to go as it is such a fun and lively place.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag that I have created shows the strength and light of Illinois as it has the sun and the cardinal.



2426

Relationship to Illinois

As a lifelong resident of Illinois, I have the privilege of calling this state my home. From my youth in Morton Grove to studying engineering at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, to living in Moline and Chicago, I have experienced the diverse landscapes and communities that make Illinois unique. Together with my husband, we established homes in Chicago and Lincolnshire, where we raised our family. We have explored all that Illinois has to offer, from its cities to its natural areas.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In creating a flag that represents our state, I drew inspiration from the rivers and lakes that define our boundaries. The abstract water wave design on either side of the flag pays homage to the border rivers of the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash, and the Lake Michigan border. In the center of the flag, the violet, our state flower, symbolizes the importance of Illinois' rich soil and diverse ecology, highlighting the significance of natural lands, agriculture, and wildlife conservation.

2427

Relationship to Illinois

I have had family members who live in Illinois and I have visited Illinois many different times. I love going to Chicago!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to include the state bird because I feel like that is an important part of Illinois. I included the bean because I feel like people go to Chicago just to see the bean. I also included the state flower because I feel like it is just a beautiful flower.

2428

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Elgin, Illinois in 1981 and lived in Barrington until College. Life threatening accident, saved by the Wauconda Fire department and Lutheran Hospital in Park Ridge. Given a second chance and left being creative and compassionate. Support nature. Work= sustainability+my family company since 2009 in Itasca, IL. It's been fun making our mark on business environmental and social responsibility. Personally i like healing, art and crave community. Live in West Dundee 1883 house near Fox.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission 1. Illinois is moving. Large Rivers. Lake Michigan. Growing plants. wind. Adapting to life. Hence the wave of blue and resulting green. Green= nature, heart, freedom, independence. light blue= water, air, breath, communication, listening, sharing. Red= life, creation, sports (physical level), courage. Circle=unity, protection, wholeness, feminine. Triangle= depends on belief, masculine. Together= balance, stability, keyhole to creativity+growth+explore+opportunity, LOVE.



2429

Relationship to Illinois

I do not possess a relationship to Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag displays the Lincoln tomb and the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site. These two pictorials reference both the past, and the future, man and nature, and the ever changing nature of both. The colors used in my design are ones sourced from the original flag.



2430

Relationship to Illinois

As a lifelong resident of Illinois, I have the privilege of calling this state my home. From my youth in Morton Grove to studying engineering at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, to living in Moline and Chicago, I have experienced the diverse landscapes and communities that make Illinois unique. Together with my husband, we established homes in Chicago and Lincolnshire, where we raised our family. We have explored all that Illinois has to offer, from its cities to its natural areas.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

When creating this flag, I drew inspiration from the rivers and lakes that shape our borders. The abstract water wave design on each side of the flag symbolizes the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers, as well as Lake Michigan. At the heart of the flag lies the monarch butterfly, our state insect, which is prevalent throughout Illinois. This emblem signifies the rich diversity of Illinois' ecology, underscoring the importance of preserving our natural landscapes and wildlife.

2431

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Junior in Highschool, and have been living in Illinois for 12 years now with my family. We like to travel and see the cities, suburbs, and rural areas of Illinois. We love the scenery and comfort of Illinois. Illinois has been our home for a long time now, and it is amazing. We have learned so much about the state ever since we were here. I felt like making this flag because I have always wanted to contribute something to Illinois and my community in some way, big or small.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green stripe stands for the abundant prairies of Illinois. The white stripe stands for the mix of all colors and races in Illinois, with it being a very diverse state. The blue stripe symbolizes the rivers of Illinois. The stripe can be seen as a river flowing into a wide blue area to the left of the flag, with that big blue area standing for Lake Michigan. The sun has 21 points which represent Illinois as the 21st state. The sun also represents Illinois' big impact on the United States.

2432

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois most of my life. I was born in Maywood, IL and grew up in Oak Park, IL. My mom and her siblings grew up in Illinois. Except for a few years in Minnesota, I have been a lifelong resident of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the land of Illinois, its wild prairie and its farms & agriculture across. The shape is pointed like a hill to represent the Cahokia mounds and the Native Americans who lived here before us. The blue is for the Mississippi, Lake Michigan, and all the other waters of Illinois. The 17 six pointed stars represent all 102 counties of Illinois, with a star point for each county. The white is the path from our past growth to our future ambitions, opening up to a wider future.

2433

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Warrenville and grew up in Naperville, spending my childhood in the suburbs of Chicago gave me a great variety in experiences. From spending time in the city for field trips and sporting events, to camping and hiking with the Boy Scouts at places like Starved Rock. As an adult, I moved to Quincy to work as an engineer for the 5th oldest company in the state, Knapheide. I've lived here 7 years now and have really enjoyed seeing a new side of the state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The shield is a redesign of the one on the current flag. I want to keep the shield to show an evolution, instead of a departure from our historical symbols. But it's been updated to hold more meaning. 3 stars for the 3 cities that have been our capitals; Kaskaskia, Vandalia, and Springfield or for 3 regions, North, central, and south. 21 red and white stripes to indicate the 21st state. The blue stripe is to indicate the many bodies of water that define our borders history geography and economy.

2434

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Elgin, Illinois in 1981 and lived in Barrington until College. Life threatening accident, saved by the Wauconda Fire department and Lutheran Hospital in Park Ridge. Given a second chance and left being creative and compassionate. Generous. Work= sustainability+my family company since 2009 in Itasca, IL. It's been fun making our mark on business environmental and social responsibility. Personally i like healing, nature, art, history, interesting people, bicycling and giving back.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission #2: Rivers, Lakes and the sky is prominent in Illinois. This is our space. Agricultural has reduced forest significantly. We still have natural gems and land conservation is on the rise. Symbol is a plant, tree, balance, structure, ingenious shape (our architecture masters), and a keyhole. Illinois is creative. Superman is from here. Epic companies start here. Blues. Skyscraper. Independence. gateway to higher knowledge. Protected. explore unknown, authentic. new

2435

Relationship to Illinois

As a lifelong resident of Illinois, I have the privilege of calling this state my home. From my youth in Morton Grove to studying engineering at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, to living in Moline and Chicago, I have experienced the diverse landscapes and communities that make Illinois unique. Together with my husband, we established homes in Chicago and Lincolnshire, where we raised our family. We have explored all that Illinois has to offer, from its cities to its natural areas.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

When creating this flag, I drew inspiration from the rivers and lakes that shape our borders. The abstract water wave design on each side of the flag symbolizes the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers, as well as Lake Michigan. In the center of the flag is a profile of Illinois. Adorning both sides are 10 stars, symbolizing the 20 states that preceded Illinois. The prominent star in the center is a reminder that we proudly hold the distinction of being the 21st state to join the United States.

2436



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I love being outdoors and in the city.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to represent the state bird, state flower, and the the state tree. The cardinal resting on a white oak surrounded by blue violets makes me happy to think about and draw.

2437



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and recently reestablished residency in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The central star indicates the states role as the central hub for commerce in America. The various bands represent several significant modes of transportation including the great lakes, river traffic, railroads & highways, and air travel. The yellow background represents the states rich agricultural history and current relevance.

2438



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evergreen Park, grew up in the South Suburbs of Chicago (Justice, Orland Park, Homer Glen), graduated from Northern Illinois University (DeKalb), moved to the Western Suburbs (Lisle, Naperville, Wheaton), where my wife and I started a family in Woodridge, IL over 23 years ago. I currently work for a software company in the Chicago Loop, and my daughter is a junior attending University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I was inspired by the Illinois state symbols to create a unique and immediately recognizable state flag that starts with the large "I" and is incorporated into the "ILLINOIS" typeface. Vibrant and artful symbols of Illinois include Chicago skyline, Route 66, northern cardinal (state bird) perched on White Oak (state tree) branch with a centerpiece of cornstalks (state grain), followed by a white-tailed deer (state animal) jumping over violets (state flower). Find the secret Illinois shape.

2439

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and spent much of my life in Illinois. In my twenties my fianc* and I decided to move out of state to expand our experiences. During that time, we lived in the different states throughout the country. When we decided to start a family together, we moved back to Illinois and have been here ever since. Our children were born in Illinois, and we enjoy raising them here. While my husband and I feel we gained valuable knowledge living in other areas Illinois will always be our home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Simple yet bold-an easily recognizable design. The dark blue in the background/ star represents state unity-bringing together people from both the Chicago area and downstate Illinois. The light blue represents the various waterways throughout Illinois. The golden yellow represents our states agriculture and prairies. The 6-point star is favored by many in Illinois. The points of the star represent: creativity/innovation, transportation, agriculture, commerce, diverse natural landscape, loyalty

2440

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here. From the city of Chicago to the University of Illinois, our roots are here!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used the traditional colors of the country to reflect our connectedness to the country as a whole. I wanted to include icons of north, south--and in between!--so of course there is the recognizable skyline of the greatest city in the world paired with a crop that is synonymous with our hardworking agricultural industry (with a nod to the Morrow Plots of UIUC). And the stars tie it all together as the light we shine when we work together.

2441

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and spent much of my life in Illinois. In my twenties my fianc* and I decided to move out of state to expand our experiences. During that time, we lived in the different states throughout the country. When we decided to start a family together, we moved back to Illinois and have been here ever since. Our children were born in Illinois, and we enjoy raising them here. While my husband and I feel we gained valuable knowledge living in other areas Illinois will always be our home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue in the background/star represents state unity-bringing together people from both the Chicago area and downstate IL. The light blue represents the waterways throughout IL. The yellow represents our states agriculture and prairies. The 6-point star is favored by many in Illinois. The points of the star represent: creativity/innovation, transportation, agriculture, commerce, diverse natural landscape, loyalty. "ILLINOIS" on the flag is similar font to the original flag and is optional.

2442

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 10 year old. I was born in Illinois and have lived here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents my pride in my home state, Illinois, where many people from different backgrounds come together to create a bright future for all. Blue: The blue represents wisdom and the creativity of the people of Illinois. Green: The green represents Illinois' rich agricultural heritage. Yellow: The yellow represents positivity and happiness. White Circle: The white circle on my flag represents peace for all. Torch: The torch represents Illinois is a beacon of hope for America as a whole.



2443

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and spent much of my life in Illinois. In my twenties my fianc* and I decided to move out of state to expand our experiences. During that time, we lived in the different states throughout the country. When we decided to start a family together, we moved back to Illinois and have been here ever since. Our children were born in Illinois, and we enjoy raising them here. While my husband and I feel we gained valuable knowledge living in other areas Illinois will always be our home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark blue 6-point star represents state unity-bringing together people from both the Chicago area and downstate Illinois. The light blue represents the rivers and lakes throughout Illinois. The golden yellow represents our state's rich farmland and prairies. The 6-point star is favored by many in Chicago and is seen unifying with the water and prairie colors. The points of the star represent: creativity/innovation, transportation, agriculture, commerce, diverse natural landscape, loyalty

2444

Relationship to Illinois

I went to college at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois for four years (2017-2021) to obtain my Bachelor's degree. I also have family (aunt, uncle, and cousins) who live in Chicago who I visit often. To me, Illinois has always felt like a second home because of that and since many of my friends also live in the city of Chicago as well as the surrounding suburbs and towns (i.e. Naperville and Wheaton). It's convenient to visit the state since it's just across the river as well.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 18-point star references Illinois' 18 US representatives, the foundation of the state in 1818, and when it was organized as a territory in 1809. The orange represents the prairies and work zone awareness. The blue with wavy lines represents Lake Michigan and bordering rivers (i.e. the Mississippi) and the bluegill (state fish of Illinois). The white nods to the original state flag's white field with the line representing railroads/travel and the path towards a bright and peaceful future.

2445

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and am proud of the state for making better decisions for the people.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design of the Illinois flag shows the Illinois shape, the red cardinal national bird, the bean for best attractions in Chicago made entirely of stainless steel, the flower violet for unique identity and heritage, the corn for producing more ethanol than any other state, the crop field for providing food, feed grain, oil, fiber for domestic consumption and a major component of U.S. export trade. Finally a crown on top of the flag for the state being the queen or the king of the United States.



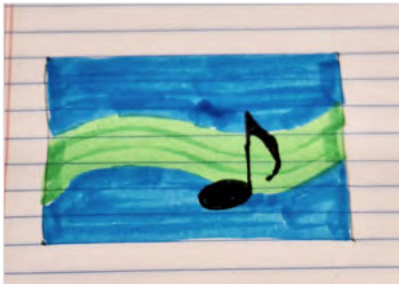
2446

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Elgin, Illinois in 1981 and lived in Barrington until College. Life threatening pedestrian accident survivor. Thanks Wauconda Fire for reviving me. Given a 2nd chance and increased being creative and compassionate. Generous. Work= sustainability+my family company since 2009 in Itasca, IL. It's been fun making our mark on business environmental and social responsibility. Personally i like healing, nature, art, history, interesting people, bicycling and giving back. Grateful.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission #3: Surrounded by water, tucked in by the expansive sky in the plains. We're in movement. The humble eighth note. Has a "flag". Leadership. Bold. Original. The 8th note is the first note of Mannish Boy by blues legend Muddy Waters of Chicago. The rest of the state has their own beat and message. The plants and water have their own sound. Everything is frequency. Higher knowledge. Versatile. link of rhythmic expression. creative. gives hope. Music brings people+birds Together. Love.



2447

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange in the flag stands for the crops and harvesting of Illinois. The blue stands for the expansive and beautiful sky of Illinois and the waters around Chicago. The star is a representation of Chicago similar to how Chicago has the star on their flag. And the green stands for the arable and fertile farmland and it is on the bottom because the farmland is in the south of Illinois.



2448

Relationship to Illinois

I am a life long Illinois resident. I was raised in central IL (Congerville, IL -pop. 400) and moved to Champaign, IL to attend the University of Illinois. Upon graduation I moved to Chicago, where I've lived the past past 20 years. I have essentially split my life between small-town Illinois and Chicago. Both of my parents come from multi-generational Illinois families. In short, I'm Illinois through and through -and excited for a new flag we can be proud of to represent our great state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag celebrates IL, including a stylized version of its distinct shape centered. Two bands of blue on the top represent our major bodies of water (Mississippi & Lake Michigan). 21 stars represent IL being the 21st state, and our role in forming the USA. The green band is actually 102 lines, representing IL's 102 counties and our agricultural foundation. 1 silhouette represents the Land of Lincoln. The 2nd represents our Native American heritage, but NACC-IL.org would select the right image.



2449

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois for my entire life. I was born in Litchfield and raised in Gillespie. For the first 22 years of my life, I lived in Macoupin County, and nearly all of my extended family lives in Illinois--we descend from German, Scottish, and English immigrants who came to downstate Illinois to work in agriculture and coal mining. I am a proud SIUE Cougar. I lived in Springfield for a time, working for the state government, and I now live in Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag largely represents the land of Illinois itself. The orange bottom half represents the prairie, and the blue the sky. The horizontal blue cleave in the center of the flag represents the Illinois River. The three 4-pointed white stars in the bottom half represent the three capital cities in Illinois' history -- Kaskaskia, Vandalia, and the largest star, Springfield. The 6-pointed star at the top represents Chicago, the economic and cultural anchor of Illinois.

2450

Relationship to Illinois

I am a life long Illinois resident. I was raised in central IL (Congerville, IL -pop. 400) and moved to Champaign, IL to attend the University of Illinois. Upon graduation I moved to Chicago, where I've lived the past past 20 years. I have essentially split my life between small-town Illinois and Chicago. Both of my parents come from multi-generational Illinois families. In short, I'm Illinois through and through -and excited for a new flag we can be proud of to represent our great state!



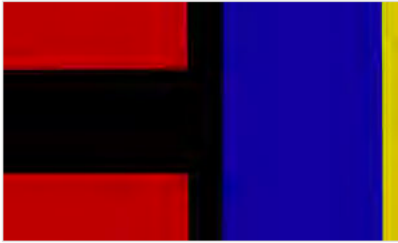
Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag illustrates the Land of Lincoln and distinctive state shape (stylized) in a unique way. Two blue bands represent the Mississippi & Lake Michigan. 21 stars reflects our history as 21st state. The red, white & blue are reshaped for IL. Both symbols of IL (large star & state shape) use different colors to avoid partisan interpretation. This flag has an added benefit of providing an additional flag/symbol for IL, as the left arrangement of stars could be a new symbol for IL as 21st state.

2451

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in It for 14 years and I love everything about it. I love going to Chicago to see the lake and the monuments that mean so much to our state. I also loved the farms that allow for so much fun. I love the parks, and I love to go to the Mortan Arboretum to see nature. I also love its history, as I've looked into it and loved going to Naper Settlement as a kid. My love for this state prompted me to make a flag design that I felt would fully represent all its best qualities.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The black is in the shape of a top hat to represent Pres. Lincoln, as Illinois was his home. The red is one of Illinois' two state colors, and the yellow represents the prairies Illinois is known for-as we are the prairie state. Blue is used to be paired with the other colors, as it is paired with the red to show it is part of the USA and paired with the yellow to be the sky to the yellow's prairie.

2452

Relationship to Illinois

I am a life long Illinois resident. I was raised in central IL (Congerville, IL -pop. 400) and moved to Champaign, IL to attend the University of Illinois. Upon graduation I moved to Chicago, where I've lived the past past 20 years. I have essentially split my life between small-town Illinois and Chicago. Both of my parents come from multi-generational Illinois families. In short, I'm Illinois through and through -and excited for a new flag we can be proud of to represent our great state!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag celebrates the Land of Lincoln & distinctive state shape stylized in a way that's not immediately obvious. The green band is actually 102 lines, representing Illinois' 102 counties & our agricultural foundation. 21 stars reflects our history as the 21st state, and our history in forming the USA. The blue/green/white color palate symbolizes our great bodies of water (Mississippi & Lake Michigan) and the open land/skies of IL. The left half of stars & fields could be an alt IL flag/icon.

2453

Relationship to Illinois

Write 5-7 sentences about who you are and about your relationship with the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design element is the light blue background. I chose this color for the background to represent Lake Michigan, and allude to the Chicago flag. Lake Michigan is the biggest body of water in the State of Illinois, and provides a great economic benefit to the state through fishing and shipping.



2454

Relationship to Illinois

Directions: Write 5-7 sentences about who you are and about your relationship with the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design element is the light blue background. I chose this color for the background to represent Lake Michigan, and allude to the Chicago flag. Lake Michigan is the biggest body of water in the State of Illinois, and provides a great economic benefit to the state through fishing and shipping.



2455

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Joliet, raised and still reside in New Lenox. Additionally I went down to college in Edwardsville at SIUE where I had obtained my Bachelor's degree.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Gold: The state's agriculture, the stripes also give the allusion of the side of a log cabin to represent Lincoln. Blue: The waters of Illinois, with the stripes representing the Mississippi, Wabash, and Ohio Rivers. The pile represents Lake Michigan and also has the general shape of Illinois. White: Unity, the stars represent Northern, Central, Southern Illinois, & Chicago. Together they have 21 points for the 21st state. Also it has design inspiration from both the Centennial and US flags.



2456

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in New York, but came to Illinois following the growth of the Quantum Computing jobs in Chicago. I have lived in Illinois for the past two years now, and have grown to love the state and the Midwest region as a whole. I have traveled all over the state and am constantly impressed by the plethora of history, scenery, and communities that this state has to offer. From the ancient majesty of the Cahokia Mounds to the stately architecture of Chicago, Illinois delivers!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists primarily of an amber field, which together with the stems of wheat emblem, compare the agricultural heartland of the Amber Waves of Grain. The blue canton in the upper right corner symbolizes Lake Michigan. The lower stem bisects the flag, crossing centrally over Springfield. The upper stem represents the Illinois and Des Plaines rivers, meeting Lake Michigan at Chicago. The 21 fully amber grains on the blue canton signify Illinois entrance into the union as the 21st state.

2457

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in New York, but came to Illinois following the growth of the Quantum Computing jobs in Chicago. I have lived in Illinois for the past two years now, and have grown to love the state and the Midwest region as a whole. I have traveled all over the state and am constantly impressed by the plethora of history, scenery, and communities that this state has to offer. From the ancient majesty of the Cahokia Mounds to the stately architecture of Chicago, Illinois delivers!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and white of this flag are an homage to the Illinois Centennial Flag (which I hope is also in contention). The two southwest stripes represent the Ohio and Mississippi rivers forming the southern and western borders respectively. Likewise, the two northeast stripes represent Lake Michigan and the Wabash River. The central red stripe then symbolizes Illinois, the heartland of America bounded by these four bodies.

2458

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in New York, but came to Illinois following the growth of the Quantum Computing jobs in Chicago. I have lived in Illinois for the past two years now, and have grown to love the state and the Midwest region as a whole. I have traveled all over the state and am constantly impressed by the plethora of history, scenery, and communities that this state has to offer. From the ancient majesty of the Cahokia Mounds to the stately architecture of Chicago, Illinois delivers!



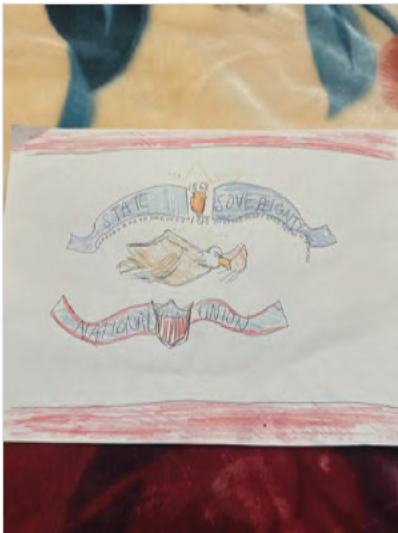
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents the ever forward progress of Illinois. Starting as a metropolitan center, the lower green trapezoid under a blue sky represents the Cahokia Mounds. On the left is a star of Chicago in a triangle pointed to the right, as if an arrow pointed forward in time. This symbolizes the growth of the people in Illinois across Millennia. On the right, a triangle is cut out, representing the unknowable future toward which our progress takes us.

2459

Relationship to Illinois

Resident and I am 6th Grade student of Patrick Henry Elem. School. Illinois my place where freedom rings loud and clear, inspires me to contribute meaningfully and be a source of positivity, shaping brighter future for me and for all. The beauty of Illinois reminds me about my duty to express my love for America and unlock my potential to be invaluable assets of this great nation, fostering progress and growth. I want to celebrate the splendor of Illinois and the liberty to cherish our nation.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Some details are taken from the original flag, suggesting some of its themes. My design represents the dates 1818 and 1868, important dates in Illinois history, representing the Illinois Constitution and remembering the original seal. The stars are represented with the 21st being the biggest, giving emphasis on Illinois becoming the 21st state. The 13 stars (represented by dots) represent Illinois signing the 13th amendment, empowering integration.

2460

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria, I lived there for 15 years before moving to Lockport, so I've lived here my entire life. I got my undergraduate degree at UIC and I'm currently studying at UIUC.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four blue corners represent the four aquatic natural borders of Illinois: Lake Michigan, and Wabash, Ohio, and Mississippi rivers. The orange represents the state during harvest, with the leaves and fields amalgamating into orange. The white represents industry and our cities. There's 21 stars, 10 north, 10 south, like with the Centennial flag, and the 12 pointed star is Illinois, with 12 tribes in the Illinois confederation, and red showing us shining bright in the middle of this country.

2461

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is where I grew up and still live. This state is also where my extended family decided to settle and be together. Before this, everyone lived in various coastal cities before moving to the Midwest.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

- Kept "ILLINOIS" so it can still be ID'd per McDaniel's concern-Statehood honored with 18 chevrons for year 1818, twelve prairie grass blades above for December & our nickname, and three inflorescences for the 3rd-21 stars = 21st state-Stars resemble corn for agriculture - Husk has 3 sections for 3 major geographic regions- Blue bars framing IL for our water borders (Lake Michigan & 3 rivers)-Chevrons/bars represent a corn belt, the railroads, and Midwest (points mid)

2462

Relationship to Illinois

* Born in Chicago, Illinois.* Spent my childhood in Lisle, and graduated from Naperville North High School.* Went to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, graduating with a BFA in Industrial Design from the School of Art and Design* Started my professional design career in Chicago.* While I now live in Washington state, I still consider Illinois my home as my family still resides in Lisle and I visit very often.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Feathers Among Stars: A unifying symbol that honors its origins, its multi-faceted identity, and its historical legacy on the US. * Feathers to honor the native tribes in our origin * 3 feathers represent the 3 IL regions* Each feather has 3 tiers to symbolize nature, agriculture, industry* Stems symbolize the 3 major river lines. * Feathers connect to show unity* Stars represent the resiliency, courage, and leadership that shaped the nation.Full detail here: <https://bit.ly/3YprOSL>

2463

Relationship to Illinois

I was raised in Southern Illinois in Madison County, residing in the Metro East towns of Maryville, Edwardsville, Glen Carbon, and Troy. I now split my time between St. Louis, MO and my family's residence in Maryville, IL. Living in this area I experienced the mixing of urban, suburban, and rural communities in our State and the wonderfully diverse people that reside within them. Weekend trips in Chicago, field trips to Springfield, and family holidays in Coles County inform my love of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

"The Unity Oak Flag" A compass of White Oak leaves: 3 green leaves, each with 7 lobes, represent the 21st State. The 4th leaf is blank, pointing east towards the future. Four colors frame the compass: Pure White: west for open skies + the progress of industry; Maize Yellow: south for fertile plains + the wealth of agriculture; Forest Green: east for native prairies + the conservation of environment; Union Blue: north for great lakes & rivers + the rights of democracy. The elements unite in harmony.

2464

Relationship to Illinois

I was raised in Southern Illinois in Madison County, residing in the Metro East towns of Maryville, Edwardsville, Glen Carbon, and Troy. I now split my time between St. Louis, MO and my family's residence in Maryville, IL. Living in this area I experienced the mixing of urban, suburban, and rural communities in our State and the wonderfully diverse people that reside within them. Weekend trips in Chicago, field trips to Springfield, and family holidays in Coles County inform my love of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"The Prairie Violet Flag" Red + white + blue = violet
A color that represents the shared American values in all Illinoisans, and our State as a central melting-pot
The violet is found everywhere from prairie to playground in Illinois. Symbolizing growth, abundance, and perseverance
The 3 blue stripes (lower left) represent the three major rivers of Illinois
The navy blue (upper right) represents Lake Michigan
The white represents the land, home of the violet; the proud spirit of Illinois.



2465

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and love it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents some Illinois greats. A white oak tree, the great president Lincoln with a pumpkin and a cardinal and the Willis tower also.



2466

Relationship to Illinois

Passion for history, politics and flags.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors: bright blue (as on the Chicago flag, referring therefore to the biggest city of the state) horizontal stripes, representing the two big rivers, Mississippi and Illinois, the larger stripe the lake Michigan. Then on top the sky with 21 stars as Illinois is the 21. state of the Union.



2467

Relationship to Illinois

Passion for history, politics and flags.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Color dark yellow/prairie yellow (as for example on the Saskatchewan flag) two big horizontal stripes representing the "prairies state" and two rails, signifying the importance of the railways and industrialization in general for making Illinois one of the economic powerhouses of the U.S. On top the "Monks mound" line, representing pre-colonial Illinois with a superior UNESCO world heritage site, a long history of civilization and finally the diversity of the people of the state.



2468

Relationship to Illinois

Passion for history, politics and flags.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I believe there needs to be an element on the flag representing President Abraham Lincoln. According to my research, the axe is the best symbol for him ("The Rail Splitter", also representing the hard work of those having built the state, plus the L shape for Lincoln). Also I would refer to the French colonial history (one or three Fleur-de-lis) and again to the United States (the 21. star).



2469

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and love it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents some Illinois greats. A white oak tree, the great president Lincoln with a pumpkin and a cardinal and the Willis tower also.



2470

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinois resident. Born in Chicago, raised in Woodridge, went to college at NIU, raised my family in Gurnee. I have built a career in this state. I love that I can experience the cultural experiences of Chicago, the community I have in my town and beautiful nature all in one week.



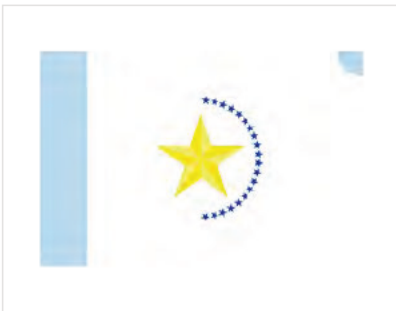
Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to keep the elements of the current flag and simplify them and give them meaning. The Illinois flag should have the same badge value as the Chicago flag and be sported proudly as a symbol. The stately bald eagle that people go to starved rock to see every year. 3 stars (evolution of sun on current flag) represent urban, suburban and rural. 6 sided star - distinctly Chicago, IL. Blue strips - Lake Michigan & Mississippi River. Gold - harvest, agriculture, Chicago's status as a top city in US.

2471

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the northwest suburbs of Chicago, in Streamwood. I later moved to Chicago to attend Columbia College Chicago, where I studied Film and Animation. I spent over twenty years in Chicago starting my career and building friendships. It was also in Illinois that I met my wife and started a family, with both of our children being born there. Chicago and Illinois will always hold a special place in my heart, and I try to get back to see family and friends as often as I can.



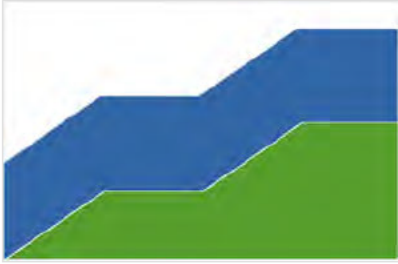
Explain the meaning behind your flag

2 tone gold star at the center - represents the 2 main crops that are produced - soybeans (#1 in the US) and corn (#2 in the US). 20 dark blue stars in an arch - represents the 20 states that were formed before IL attained statehood and border. Light blue stripe on the left side - represents the Mississippi river defining the western border of IL. Light blue quarter circle in upper right-hand corner - represents Lake Michigan. This flag shows how the US define our borders and how we define us.

2472

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Alton, Illinois, and I've worked in food service, retail, and education in this state. I'm a lifelong advocate for public universities. Attending University of Illinois at Chicago and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville transformed my life.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Cahokia Mounds is one of only two UNESCO's World Heritage sites in Illinois, and my design represents the contours of Monk's Mound when gazing westward. The design offers various other interpretations: upward trajectory; a bird in flight; earth, water, and sky; the contour of Illinois' Mississippi River border, or Illinois' waterways more generally.

2473

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED], and have been a lifelong resident of Gurnee, Illinois for 14 years. After traveling around and experiencing so much of this wonderful state, I decided to try and capture the essence of this beautiful place.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design is a simplistic approach to the original Illinois seal. My main focus of the flag design is the red star in the middle, which symbolizes the state's sovereignty, which were the main words on the banner held by the eagle on the original seal. The red stripe is an updated take on the banner. The sun is enlarged from the prior flag rising over lake Michigan. The colors in the background represent purity (white) and perseverance (Dark Blue), with the red, white and blue showing unity.

2474

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the northwest suburbs of Chicago, in Streamwood. I later moved to Chicago to attend Columbia College Chicago, where I studied Film and Animation. I spent over twenty years in Chicago starting my career and building friendships. It was also in Illinois that I met my wife and started a family, with both of our children being born there. Chicago and Illinois will always hold a special place in my heart, and I try to get back to see family and friends as often as I can.



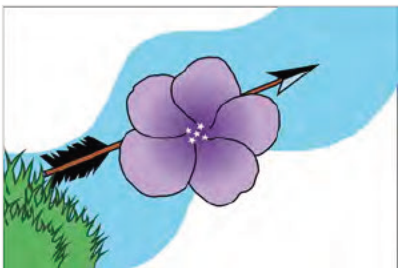
Explain the meaning behind your flag

2 tone gold star at the center - 2 main crops that are produced - soybeans (#1 in the US) and corn (#2 in the US) 20 dark blue stars in an arch - 20 states that were formed before IL attained statehood and border IL Light blue stripe on the left side - Mississippi river defining the western border of IL Light blue quarter circle in upper right-hand corner - Lake Michigan Diagonal light blue stripes - the rivers and roads of IL This flag shows how the US define our borders and how we define us

2475

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois my whole life. When I was younger, I would always look out the car window and notice all of the things that made up my surroundings like the grass, buildings, and even animals. I have not traveled much, but I don't think that the surroundings of any place would be quite as comforting as my home in Illinois. Although some might say that there isn't much here, I hold a special connection to this place where I hold many dear memories with family and friends.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The streak of blue represents the rivers that are in Illinois. Additionally, the Big Bluestem grass at the bottom left is an indication towards our State Prairie Grass. Illinois had many tribes living in the area and our state was named after the Illiniwek Tribe whose traditional weapons were the bow and arrow (Hence the arrow on the flag). Finally, there is a violet which is our state flower with 5 stars that represent the Chicago fire, 2 World's Fairs, Fort Dearborn, and the Land of Lincoln

2476

Relationship to Illinois

I have always called Illinois my home. Always had an Illinois address. Have lived in Downers Grove Township for the past 35 years. All my education has been in Illinois schools.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Offering distinctive flag, representing Illinois as the Land of Lincoln, the Prairie State, the Crossroads of America, and celebrating Illinois' diverse heritage. The flag's composition is off center to reflect Illinois' position in the Continental United States. The portrait of Lincoln has six spokes that reflect roads taken by various peoples or their ancestors to make Illinois their home. The pale blue represents a prairie sky. The dark blue the Mississippi and Lake Michigan for history.

2477

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois (Chicago) and continue to live here with my family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to show the bald eagle on top of a building with the Chicago skyline behind it. The bald eagle is a national emblem that is important to Illinois because it's a symbol of pride and strength. I am proud to have been born and continue to live in Illinois.



2478

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago in 1993. My family moved away from the state when I was 5 years old. Upon graduating from college, I returned in 2016 and have been working as an architect in the city ever since. I have lived in Chicago, IL for over 8 years and routinely drive down I-57 to see my family in KY. I have experienced both the urban and rural aspects of the state, which along with its history have all inspired my design.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

1. The white field represents the Illinois prairie - white mound represents the Cahokia Mounds Historic Site
2. The blue region on top represents Lake Michigan - a state border
3. The three wavy blue lines represent the Ohio, Wabash, & Mississippi rivers - all state borders
4. The 20 stars represent the 20 states that preceded Illinois
5. The 12 red triangles represent the 12 tribes of the Illinois Confederation - "The Illini"
6. The 6-pointed star represents the city of Chicago, a diverse city

2479

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Thirteen stripes are used by both the US and George Rogers Clark flags. Blue represents the rivers and lakes that feed the Illinois farmland and built Chicago. The gold represents the fields of corn and soybeans at harvest time. The white saltire overall represents the union of each county and community across Illinois, but also represents unity for the United States as Illinois is the Land of Lincoln and it is Lincoln that kept the American States united through the civil war.



2480



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

French flags have long provided inspiration to states and communities across the former Louisiana territory. Iowa uses the French tricolor charged with an American bald eagle on their flag. The flag of New Orleans uses the French colors and fleur de lys. Here the square French regimental flag which is quartered red and blue with a white lozenge provides inspiration as these are already America's colors, The central lozenge is charged with eagle and rising sun motif found on the seal of Illinois.

2481



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

French flags have long provided inspiration to states and communities across the former Louisiana territory, from Iowa to New Orleans. Here the French regimental flag, which is quartered red and blue with a white lozenge, provides the underlying inspiration as these are already America's colors, The regimental flag has been stretched to a more customary rectangular shape. The central lozenge is charged with eagle and rising sun motif found on the seal of Illinois.

2482



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Blue sky, keeping eagle from old flag, but in a profile. Red, white, blue, gold, black color scheme. Red star for eye. Use of sun from old flag. 21 lines in black rays for Illinois becoming the 21st state.

2483



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Blue sky, keeping eagle from old flag, but in a profile. Red, white, blue, and gold color scheme. Gold star eagle eye representing Springfield. Red on the right, making 5 feathers to represent regions of Illinois (Northern, Eastern, Western, Southern and Central).

2484



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here since I was 6 years old. Chicago specifically is where I stay I love the city and going to school in the city to.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the Illinois state flower as the center point and then I wanted to include the date and how many states it took for Illinois to become a state I wanted it to have meaning and when you look at it you know what the date and the stars mean around it

2485



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -

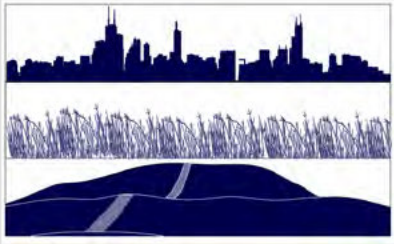
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Blue sky, keeping eagle from old flag, but in a profile. Eagle profile with each of the 5 feathers to represent regions of Illinois (Northern, Eastern, Western, Southern and Central). Incorporating the rising sun from the old flag for the eagle's eye. Red on the far right.

2486

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home. For 37 years, I've been shaped by its diverse landscapes, from Chicago's energy to the quiet countryside. The seasons reflect strength and growth, and my family's traditions are woven into the fabric of this state. Illinois isn't just where I live; it's where my memories, values, and connections thrive. From going to college here to my favorite teams here, this place irreplaceable in my heart. Illinois is my life and I am proud of it.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design features a dynamic blend of elements: the iconic Cahokia Mounds, a field of tall Big Bluestem grass, and the striking Chicago skyline. The mounds symbolize Illinois' rich history, while the Big Bluestem represents the state's natural beauty. The Chicago skyline adds a modern touch, embodying progress. Dark blue and white tones evoke a sense of unity and timelessness, with the contrasting colors highlighting the balance between history, nature, and urban development.

2487

Relationship to Illinois

I live there

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's a drawing of Lincoln with his iconic chair with the bean and sears or willis tower in the background with some wind. I also have Mr. Lincoln's hand hold a deep dish pizza on one hand and he has Michael Jordan's NBA rings on the other with a missing puzzle looking piece on his upper left shoulder symbolizing norridge and not being apart of Chicago



2488



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Lombard and have lived here my entire life. I am a 4th grade student. I helped establish the IL state mushroom this year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois because each small heart is different like all the residents of IL. The big heart in the middle is rainbow to represent me, a nonbinary person, like many of the people of IL.

2489



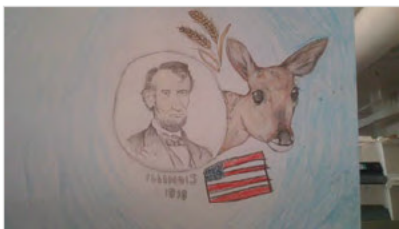
Relationship to Illinois

I live and go to school in Evanston, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue wave at the top is for the clear blue skies of Illinois. Then the black band is for the skyscrapers and cities in Illinois. The yellow band symbolizes the abundance of corn that our state is known for. The green stands for the rolling meadows of the prairie state and the soybean crop. Finally, the blue on the bottom is for the beautiful waterways in our state, the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The six pointed star is a nod to Chicago and for the 6th largest state by pop.

2490



Relationship to Illinois

my relationship with the state of Illinois is very good. I was born and raised here. My family is from here and I made all of my memories here in Illinois. A city in Illinois I did grow up in is Chicago, Illinois, the most populated city in the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose this color for the background to represent Lake Michigan, and allude to the Chicago flag. Lake Michigan is the biggest body of water in the State of Illinois, it provides a great economic benefit to the state through fishing and shipping. I chose Abraham Lincoln because he was the 16th president that grew up in Illinois, spent his life here and did politics, and became president. For the crops in Illinois every year. They are very known for farming as well.



2491

Relationship to Illinois

i live in illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

each star represent something we live for



2492

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Montgomery and have lived there my whole life. I am a 5th grader in Wheaton. I was one of the students who established the IL state mushroom.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the discovery of of IL by Marquette and Joliet in 1673.



2493

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I am Alastair and my wife is Emma. We live in Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire UK and both studied American history and politics. My wife teaches American Politics to 11th and 12th grade students. We do not have a personal connection to Illinois, but when I lived in North Carolina I did visit Chicago and enjoyed my time there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -12 pointed red star represents the original 12 native american tribes of the IL confederation. The green circle represents Lake Michigan and the three green lines represent Northern, Central and Southern IL. The blue background "Old Glory Blue," is the same color found in the US flag.

2494

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident who has lived here my entire life (almost 30 years). I love Illinois for everything it has to offer and couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag pulls similar colors from the current Chicago flag and acts as the "parent" flag to the Chicago one. The giant star in the center also symbolizes Illinois being the heart of the midwest region. The stripes show the connection between the different aspects of Illinois (city (blue), farming (red), other (white)) and how they all tie together to make Illinois what it is. A great state with a lot of different aspects to it but still one greater sense of unity.



2495

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident who has lived here my entire life (almost 30 years). I love Illinois for everything it has to offer and couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag pulls similar colors from the current Chicago flag and acts as the "parent" flag to the Chicago one. The giant star in the center symbolizes Illinois being the heart of the midwest region. The different colors show the connection between the different aspects of Illinois (city (blue), farming (red), other (white)) and how they all tie together to make Illinois what it is. The right side is also all blue to represent Lake Michigan being directly to the east of Illinois.





2496

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and live in Wheaton. I am a 4th grader in Wheaton and was one of the students who established the IL state mushroom.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has the cardinal which is the IL state bird. Being a bright red bird it will shine like the people of IL. It sits on a white oak branch which as the state tree represents the Land of Lincoln.



2497

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident who has lived here my entire life (almost 30 years). I love Illinois for everything it has to offer and couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag pulls similar colors from the current Chicago flag and acts as the "parent" flag to the Chicago one. The giant star in the center symbolizes Illinois being the heart of the midwest region. The different colors show the connection between the different aspects of Illinois (city (blue), farming (red), other (white)). The blue shape in the center is also a giant letter "I" for Illinois. If you look in the white space on each side of the "I" you will see a silhouette of Lincoln's top hat.

2498

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the state of Illinois. As such, I have a direct motivation to see the state improve, including its symbols. I have also seen the sort of divide that has formed between Chicagoland and Downstate, and have an interest in trying to bridge that gap through symbolism.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents the natural environment of Illinois, with the red representing the sunset over a golden field, where the white forms a bright horizon. The blue represents Illinois' connection to water which has historically given it so much relevance. The colors could also work in both rural and urban settings. The 8-pointed star is there on one hand to maintain the uniqueness and pride which Chicago has with their flag as well as symbolize Illinois being central to the rest of the US.

2499

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home. For 37 years, I've been shaped by its diverse landscapes, from Chicago's energy to the quiet countryside. The seasons reflect strength and growth, and my family's traditions are woven into the fabric of this state. Illinois isn't just where I live; it's where my memories, values, and connections thrive. From going to college here to my favorite teams here, this place irreplaceable in my heart. Illinois is my life and I am proud of it.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design features the Chicago skyline silhouette, symbolizing the city's strength and innovation. An ear of corn, a nod to Illinois' agricultural roots, anchors the piece with a sense of tradition and growth. Above, an eagle soars, representing freedom, power, and the spirit of the American Midwest. The combination of these elements reflects Illinois' blend of urban progress, agricultural heritage, and enduring national pride, capturing the essence of the state in a bold and meaningful way.

2500

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Several of my ancestors and relatives have lived, worked, and died in Illinois. I have visited the state on occasion.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - This flag is inspired by the geography and history of Illinois. Blue quarters represent Lake Michigan and the various rivers. Green quarters represent agriculture and the many forests. Also represents growth and innovation. The thin white bars represent the Mother Road Rt. 66 and Father Road Rt. 52. The center represents a road sign of the Lincoln Highway. Red and blue bars form an = sign to represent the home of the Great Emancipator. Points of the 3 stars add up to 21 for statehood.



2501

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL and live in both Wheaton and Warrenville. I am a third grader in Wheaton.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag had the state bird, the cardinal perched on a white oak tree stump. It is next to milkweed, our state wildflower. Next to the White oak there is a Giant puffball our state mushroom.



2502

Relationship to Illinois

I am native of Illinois, having been born and raised in Chicagoland. I was born in Winfield and grew up in West Chicago and continue to be a resident there. My parents moved to Illinois from Mexico at a young age and have since made this state home. They decided to start their family here when they had me as their firstborn here in this state. I consider myself a proud citizen of this state and would love to see more Illinoisans feel proud of their state.



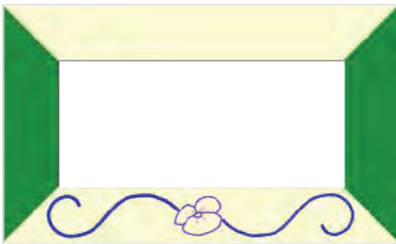
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors were inspired by the centennial flag of Illinois. White shows sovereignty, and inspired by Chicago's flag, the blue stripes represent important bodies of water: Lake Michigan, the Illinois River, and the Mississippi River. The stripes resemble a log cabin, a homage to Lincoln. The golden gear represents the hard working people of Illinois. The gear shape represents the Rust Belt side, and the gold color the rural Heartland side. There are 21 teeth on it, as Illinois is the 21st state.

2503

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and I plan to keep it that way. I grew up in Downers Grove, went to NIU, and most recently moved to Rockford. I love the variety of the state and the value that it provides. From skiing to art festivals to beaches to manufacturing Illinois really has whatever you could ask for.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag forms a picture frame. The center is a cutout to frame the beautiful state sights like the Chicago skyline, the rolling hills of Galena, the forests, or the waves of grain. On bottom is a violet, the state flower, and 2 blue swirls for the 2 most important waterways: the Mississippi river, left, and Lake Michigan, right. The top and bottom are cream colored to recall the dairy industry. The forest green on the left and right represent the lush forests and open prairies covering the state



2504

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL. I am a third grader in Wheaton.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has three different state symbols represented. The Monarch butterfly, the White Oak, and the cardinal.



2505

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Chicago my entire life, born and raised in the Beverly neighborhood and living in different neighborhoods across the city for the past 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The chevron shape is an allusion to a broad triangular roof of a prairie-style house popularized by Frank Lloyd Wright across the state of Illinois. The gold color is an allusion to rural farmland, and particularly wheat agriculture, across the state while the blue is an allusion to the important waterways of Lake Michigan and Mississippi River. The star is borrowed from the Chicago flag, and being placed in the center, represents the state's status as a central hub of transportation in the US.

2506

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Several of my ancestors and relatives have lived, worked, and died in Illinois. I have visited the state on occasion.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Green cross on white field is based on one of the various coats of arms attributed to the Lincoln family. Green represents agriculture & forests. White field represents desire for peace & pursuit of happiness. Green cross represents intersection of the Mother Road Rt. 66 and Father Road Rt. 52. The shield is from the current flag. Red and white borders of the shield represent the red and white stripes on the US flag. Three 7-pointed stars add up to 21. Also represent 3 regions in IL.



2507

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Several of my ancestors and relatives have lived, worked, and died in Illinois. I have visited the state on occasion.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Green cross on white field is based on one of the various coats of arms attributed to the Lincoln family. Green represents agriculture & forests. White field represents desire for peace & pursuit of happiness. Green cross represents intersection of the Mother Road Rt. 66 and Father Road Rt. 52. The shield is from the current flag. Red and white borders of the shield represent the red and white stripes on the US flag. Three 7-pointed stars add up to 21. Also represent 3 regions in IL.



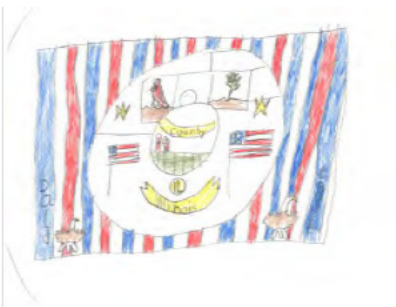
2508

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Hoffman Estates and have lived there my whole life. I am a 3rd grader in Wheaton.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has the state bird, tree, and mushroom. It is red white and blue to show it's connection to the United States. It also acknowledges that much of IL is made of up rural communities.



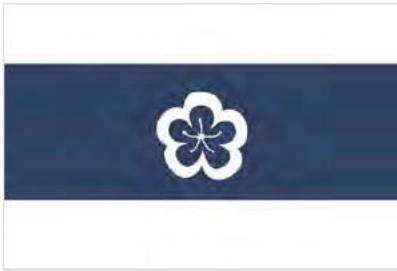


Illinois Flag Commission Submissions

2509

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen in Illinois who was born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago. I currently attend Neuqua Valley High School as a junior. I have always been passionate about graphic design, and when I heard about this commission through my computer graphics 2 course, I decided to participate.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is composed with two white stripes, a blue stripe, and a violet in the center. The violet represents the Illinois state flower, as well as the beauty of the state overall. The cohesiveness of the white stripe on the top and bottom, as well as the violet being the same color, portrays the unity of the state. The blue is a representative of liberty and peace. Additionally, the white and blue are also Illinois's state colors.

2510

Relationship to Illinois

My Mom was born in IL as was I. I live in Naperville and go to school in Wheaton. I am a third grader.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag shows the Chicago skyline at night, which is the biggest city in our state. It also has 3 state symbols, corn, the cardinal, and giant puffball. Below the skyline is the reflection into Lake Michigan. It is surrounded by the American colors showing it's part of the United States.

2511

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in suburban IL, lived in other midwestern states, & returned to IL.

Something that I noticed about IL in comparison to the other states I lived is that we don't have state pride or identity the same way others do. It's a more localized identification with our towns & cities. So what does it mean to be an Illinoisan? Together we are the cultural & economic powerhouse of the midwest; our diversity in our people & towns is our strength; & we have often been at the forefront of progress.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The geometric shape pays homage to original inhabitants of the land & symbolizes the change of the seasons & how we change with the times. The individual shapes joining together represent our towns & cities. The center is the remaining native prairie. The upper right triangle represents Chicago area & the parallel lines represent the rails and highways that made us a transit/trade hub. The lower triangle represents down-state and agriculture, & the parallel lines represent our natural waterways

2512

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen in Illinois who was born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago. I

currently attend Neuqua Valley High School as a junior. I have always been passionate about graphic design, and when I heard about this commission through my computer graphics 2 course, I decided to participate.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is composed with two white stripes, a blue stripe, and a violet in the center, with the top and bottom of the flag lined with stars. The violet represents the Illinois state flower, as well as the beauty of the state overall. The cohesiveness of the white stripe on the top and bottom, as well as the violet being the same color, portrays the unity of the state. The blue is a representative of liberty and peace. Finally, the 21 stars illustrate Illinois being the 21st state.

2513



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - We live in Chicago and this is my kid's design for a new flag for Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Ralphie drew a better Illinois flag than the current one. The blue = Lake Michigan, the yellow = the crazy heat and corn, the green = nature and the flower is our state flower.

2514



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - We live in Chicago and this is my kid's design for a new flag for Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Rex drew a better Illinois flag than the current one. This design is above the famous Illinois bird, the Northern Cardinal, sitting on a branch. Illinois is famous for corn and popcorn. I thought it was so funny that corn and popcorn are together. Blue = Illinois' beautiful sky, yellow = corn field, green = nature and grass.

2515

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Neuqua Valley High School senior, and I made this flag in my graphic design class. It wasn't required, but my teacher gave us the option to make/create one. I love creating things and have taken several courses at Neuqua that help me use my creativity. I lived in Wisconsin for 12 years then moved to Naperville, Illinois for my dad's job and met a lot of new friends, and learned a different lifestyle.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Shape and Colors: White background for simplicity and clarity. Central Symbol: A stylized silhouette of the state of Illinois in blue, positioned vertically in the center. Stars and Stripes: Instead of the current detailed eagle and shield, I incorporated elements from the U.S. flag by adding a red vertical stripe on either side of the silhouette and two blue stars (one above and one below) to represent Illinois' importance in the Union and its historical ties to American democracy.

2516

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and now live in Wheaton where I am a third grader. I will be moving to West Chicago this winter.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has the Chicago skyline in the background to represent the largest city in IL. There is a cardinal on the branch of the white oak which represent two of our state symbols. There is corn, our state crop near a pond with a blue gill, our state fish swimming in it. There is also a Giant puffball on the flag which is a state symbol that students at my school, including myself helped establish as a state symbol in 2024.



2517

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen in Illinois who was born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago. I currently attend Neuqua Valley High School as a junior. I have always been passionate about graphic design, and when I heard about this commission through my computer graphics 2 course, I decided to participate.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is composed with two blue stripes, a white stripe, and a red robin in the center, with the top and bottom of the flag lined with stars. The red robin represents the Illinois state bird. The cohesiveness of the blue stripe on the top and bottom portrays the unity of the state. The blue is a representative of liberty and peace. The combination of red, white, and blue, portray the state colors and the colors of the US. Finally, the 21 stars illustrate Illinois being the 21st state.



2518

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 17 year old high school student who has been an illinois resident my whole life. I have always love art and creativity and it just so happens that we are doing the illinois state flag redesign in my computer graphics class.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design encompasses a lot about our state. For starters we can clearly see the two animals in the center, the deer which is the Illinois state animal along side a cardinal which is the Illinois state bird. The bird rests on the deer's antlers to show their connection and support for one another. On top of that the colors seen in the flag are some of the same ones taken off of the prior state flag. Using two of the three state colors as in red and blue as well as incorporating some khaki.

2519

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student at Morton west High School in Berwyn Illinois submitting into the contest.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The main purpose of the flag design is to demonstrate the twenty-two stars which is to represent Illinois becoming the twenty second state to enter the United State's.

2520

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a high school student living in berwyn

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put 21 stars because we are the 21st state in America



2521



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and live and go to school in Wheaton. I am a 4th grader and helped establish the IL state mushroom this year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has the IL state bird the cardinal, state tree, White oak, and a state mushroom, Giant puffball. There is also the Eastern milk snake which is the IL state snake.

2522



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL. I live in Glen Ellyn and attend 3rd grade in Wheaton.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has 6 different IL state symbols. The White Oak, cardinal, giant puffball, violet, monarch, and a shelter cat.

2523



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - This flag represents Illinois corn & soybeans. The statue of Ceres/Demeter, Roman/Greek goddess of agriculture and the harvest atop the old stock building in Chicago - visible from North LaSalle Street looking south - is rising up from the corn field on the flag. Soybeans are left, violets are right. 3 pathways for roads, trains and water, reminiscent of 3 branches of Ch. Guitar and harmonica on flag for musical heritage of the blues and rock. Musical notes for creativity.

2524

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and have lived in Illinois my entire life. I love Illinois because we get to experience all four seasons and have both a vibrant city life and serene beautiful rural areas. I also appreciate our strong government that exemplifies our national union. My mother's family came to Illinois on July 4th from Mexico, allowing my mother, myself and my children the honor of being United States citizens. I do not take this privilege for granted. I love being an Illinoisan!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag highlights the strong sense of patriotism in Illinois. I believe that Democracy is alive and thriving in our state where we understand the importance of our vote and how we must work together for the good of all. I chose to focus on a few state symbols such as the Northern Cardinal, the Voila, the Monarch Butterfly and Sweet Corn, along with the state capitol. My theme is simple yet carries a strong message of patriotism and via the symbols used, reflects the beauty of our state.



2525

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I have been a proud resident of Illinois my entire life. Going back as far as six generations of which we have documentation. Each one of us was born and raised in this state. All of us continue to reside in this state which is a true testament to the love that we hold for Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag represents the following about Illinois. World renown city of Chicago, agricultural prowess, beautiful natural resources (rivers, lakes sunshine), Lincoln (famous historical president/political figure from IL who impacted our country), our traditionally held state motto, us flag and eagle to symbolize the patriotism we have for our country, a rock to stand for our state's strong solidarity, the year Illinois became a state.



2526

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the Illinois state capital and moved to Chicago for nearly ten years to start my legal career before moving back home. My professional career has focused on Illinois state law and government, and since moving back to Springfield, I have been active in local community service for causes ranging from youth development and education to social and economic initiatives.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars celebrate Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union, with a four-pointed center star in recognition of the four U.S. Presidents to call Illinois home: Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Ronald Reagan, and Barack Obama. The center star is also symbolically shaped as a compass framed between golden arches of grain in a background of blue to reflect the central role Illinois has served as a hub for agriculture connected to the country through some of the most navigable waterways.



2527

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the Illinois state capital and moved to Chicago for nearly ten years to start my legal career before moving back home. My professional career has focused on Illinois state law and government, and since moving back to Springfield, I have been active in local community service for causes ranging from youth development and education to social and economic initiatives.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars celebrate Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union, with a four-pointed center star in recognition of the four U.S. Presidents to call Illinois home: Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Ronald Reagan, and Barack Obama. The center star is also symbolically shaped as a compass framed between golden arches of grain in a background of blue to reflect the central role Illinois has served as a hub for agriculture connected to the country through some of the most navigable waterways.



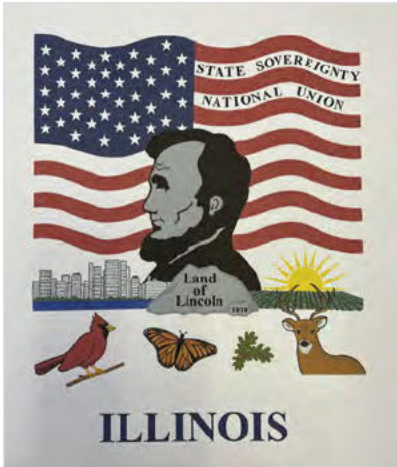
2528

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I have been a proud resident of Illinois my entire life. Going back as far as six generations of which we have documentation. Each one of us was born and raised in this state. All of us continue to reside in this state which is a true testament to the love that we hold for Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-My flag represents the following about IL. World renown city Chicago, agricultural prowess, beautiful natural resources (rivers, lakes sunshine), Lincoln (famous historical president/political figure from IL who impacted our country), traditionally held state motto, state bird, insect, tree represented by acorns & leaves of the oak tree, forest animal, a rock to stand for our states strong solidarity, the year IL became a state, us flag to symbolize the patriotism we have for our country



2529

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the Illinois state capital and moved to Chicago for nearly ten years to start my legal career before moving back home. My professional career has focused on Illinois state law and government, and since moving back to Springfield, I have been active in local community service for causes ranging from youth development and education to social and economic initiatives.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 stars celebrate Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union, with a four-pointed center star in recognition of the four U.S. Presidents to call Illinois home: Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Ronald Reagan, and Barack Obama. The center star is also symbolically shaped as a compass framed between golden arches of grain in a background of blue to reflect the central role Illinois has served as a hub for agriculture connected to the country through some of the most navigable waterways.



2530

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I have been a proud resident of Illinois my entire life. Going back as far as six generations of which we have documentation. Each one of us was born and raised in this state. All of us continue to reside in this state which is a true testament to the love that we hold for Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-My flag represents the following about IL. World renown city Chicago, agricultural prowess, beautiful natural resources (rivers, lakes sunshine), Lincoln (famous historical president/political figure from IL who impacted our country), traditionally held state motto, state bird, insect, tree represented by acorns & leaves of the oak tree, forest animal, a rock to stand for our states strong solidarity, the year IL became a state, us flag to symbolize the patriotism we have for our country



2531

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Naperville, Illinois. My dad was born in Iran and my mom was born in Missouri and they came to Illinois where me and my brother were born in Naperville Illinois. I am a high school student. I love living in Illinois because I love going to different kinds of restaurants and going to see a movie at the AMC Theaters and I also like going to Chicago because I like to experience new things in the city.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I picked the color blue to represent Lake Michigan. The stars and stripes represent the flag of Chicago. The cornstocks represent the main crops of Illinois. I chose Lincoln's profile because it's Abraham Lincoln's birthplace and it also represents the Illinois river.



2532



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and thought the opportunity to create the state flag was cool

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and orange represents the Chicago Bears and in the middle it is the outline of the state. The star represents Chicago and the state as a whole. (The orange is supposed to be the same color)

2533



Relationship to Illinois

I was raised in Southern Illinois in Madison County, residing in the Metro East towns of Maryville, Edwardsville, Glen Carbon, and Troy. I now split my time between St. Louis, MO and my family's residence in Maryville, IL. Living in this area I experienced the mixing of urban, suburban, and rural communities in our State and the wonderfully diverse people that reside within them. Weekend trips in Chicago, field trips to Springfield, and family holidays in Coles County inform my love of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"The Prairie Violet Flag" Red + white + blue = violet
A color that represents the shared American values in all Illinoisans, and our State as a central melting-pot
The violet is found everywhere from prairie to playground in Illinois. Symbolizing growth, abundance, and perseverance
The 3 blue stripes (lower left) represent the three major rivers of Illinois
The navy blue (upper right) represents Lake Michigan
The white represents the land, home of the violet; the proud spirit of Illinois.

2534



Relationship to Illinois

Student at Lundahl Middle School, living in Crystal Lake, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose this flag design because it would make Illinois the only state/place to have:
1. oddly shaped flag
2. purple, (and multiple shades)
3. one of 2 countries/places to have a purple bird on there flag (dominica)

2535



Relationship to Illinois

I have been going to college at Concordia University Chicago in River Forest, IL for the last four years, and I hope to live here permanently after graduation.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included a cardinal to represent the state bird, as well as wheat to represent the state's nickname "The Prairie State." I made the background blue to represent Illinois' connection to the Great Lakes.

2536



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and thought the opportunity to create the state flag was cool

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and orange represents the Chicago Bears and in the middle it is the outline of the state. The star represents Chicago and the state as a whole. (The orange is supposed to be the same color)

2537



Relationship to Illinois

Student at Neuqua Valley High School

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag uses a cardinal carrying a violet to represent the state bird and flower. The bottom contains the city skyline of Chicago to represent the city. The color scheme of the flag is for the state colors of Illinois.

2538



Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen/resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star in the middle of the flag was made based off of the Illiniwek tribe symbol because Illinois was named after them. The 3 blue lines behind the symbol represent the rivers that border our state; the Mississippi river, Ohio river, and Wabash river. The 2 beige stripes represent the crop lands in Illinois.

2539



Relationship to Illinois

Student at Neuqua Valley High School

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cardinal and violet represent the state bird and flower of Illinois. Behind those is the city skyline, to represent Chicago. The color palette is the state colors of Illinois.

2540



Relationship to Illinois

I have gone to college at Concordia University Chicago in River Forest, IL for the past 4 years, and I plan to live permanently in Illinois after graduating.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My main inspirations were the state's nickname "The Prairie State" and the state's connection to the Great Lakes, represented through the flowing wheat and the blue background.

2541



Relationship to Illinois

██████████. I am 17 years old. I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Leann Rutherford. ██████████

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used the cardinals since they are the states bird. I used the blue and stars to have some incorporation with America. Then, I added our state shape and made it green since we are a prairie state.

2542



Relationship to Illinois

██████████, I am 18 years old. I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used symbols of the state bird, and state flower to show that the flag is representing Illinois, I also added the boarder of the state with the color blue.

2543



Relationship to Illinois

Student at Neuqua Valley High School

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The deer in the background represents the white-tailed deer, the state animal of Illinois. The 21 stars on the flag represent how Illinois was the 21st state to be admitted into the Union. The color scheme is the state colors of Illinois.

2544

Relationship to Illinois

██████████. I am 17 years old. I am a student at Ridgewood Highschool in Norridge Illinois. I am submitting fit flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Lee Ann Rutherford. I live in ██████████, and I have lived here for 6 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has two blue stripes and one white one, similar to the Chicago flag. I began a poll where I would name a state and my audience would then say the first thing that comes to mind. It was a common occurrence that my audience would name the more known cities of that state*Ex.Illinois & Chicago. I also added a star, again, similar to the Chicago flag, that represents the capital of Illinois which is Springfield. The I & L represents the states abbreviated name.



2545

Relationship to Illinois

██████████. I am 17 years old. I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. I have lived in ██████████ here for 7 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has two blue stripes and one white one, similar to the Chicago flag. I began a poll where I would name a state and my audience would then say the first thing that comes to mind. It was a common occurrence that my audience would name the more known cities of that state*Ex.Illinois & Chicago. I also added a star, again, similar to the Chicago flag, that represents the capital of Illinois which is Springfield. The I & L represents the states abbreviated name.



2546

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Chicago my entire life, born and raised in the Beverly neighborhood and living in various neighborhoods across the city for the past 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The gold and blue sections of the flag represent the agricultural landscape of Illinois and its important waterways of the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. They are divided by a 21-degree angle, representing Illinois' status as the 21st state. It also is an abstraction of the natural slant where Chicago meets Lake Michigan. The star at the center is borrowed from the Chicago flag and represents Illinois' historical role as a central transportation hub between the eastern and western US.



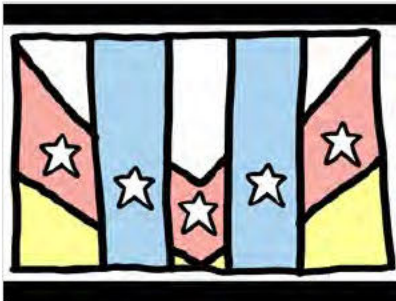
2547

Relationship to Illinois

██████████. I am 17. I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. I live in ██████████. I have lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

To start off, the two blue strips going vertical are both blue and represent the Great Lakes of Illinois, including Lake Michigan. The yellow on the bottom of the flag represents Illinois corn and soybean production which are very important to the economy. The five stars represent Illinois being the fifth state added after the original 13 colonies. The red represents the state bird, the red Northern Cardinal. Lastly, the white on the flag represents peace and tranquillity, which is Illinois.



2548

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when young. I have lived here ever since. I graduated Oregon High School as an Illinois State Scholar, attended NIU and was a Student Association Senator. I was directly involved with disbanding the Board of Regents and granting NIU and ISU their own Boards of Trustees, which included a request to visit Springfield to meet with Governor Edgar and members of the General Assembly.



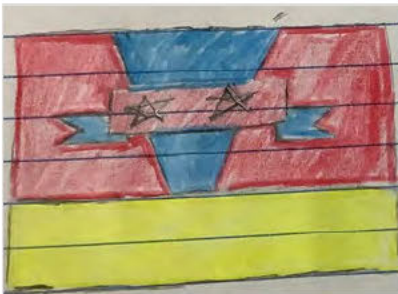
Explain the meaning behind your flag

White signifies peace and staying true to the Union during the Civil War. Blue signifies Illinois' boundary waters: Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and Lake Michigan, recalling the geography of Illinois. Gold represents wealth and Goldenrod prairie flowers. The wheel recalls paddle boats, tractor and caterpillar drive wheels, and sprockets. The Wheel of Wealth sections (clockwise): industry, minerals, agriculture, arts and education, and the people at the center who bring it all together.

2549

Relationship to Illinois

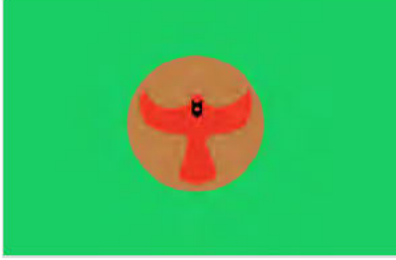
██████████ I am 17 years old, I am a student at Ridgewood high school in Norridge High school in Norridge Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my civics class. My teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████. I have lived in Illinois for my whole life and consider this place my home no matter what.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The color of blue and red symbolize freedom in this country and state, the yellow on the bottom would symbolize the big corn fields we are known for and proud of. The banner on the front would be for the Illinois state building. Last the two stars symbolize Springfield and Chicago. I have always loved Illinois but have always been hesitant about the flag and how I feel it should be able to describe more of this amazing state.

2550



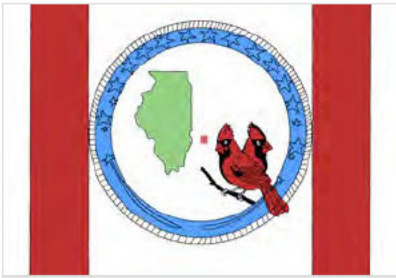
Relationship to Illinois

██████████. I am 17, I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois, I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green background represents Illinois as the "Prairie State" Bronze circle represents a penny to represent the "Land of Lincoln" The red bird in the middle is to represent our state bird the "Red Northern Cardinal".

2551



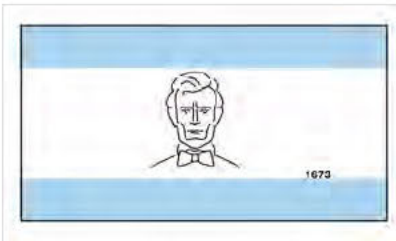
Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used the cardinals since they are the states bird. I used the blue and stars to have some incorporation with America. Then, I added our state shape and made it green since we are a prairie state.

2552



Relationship to Illinois

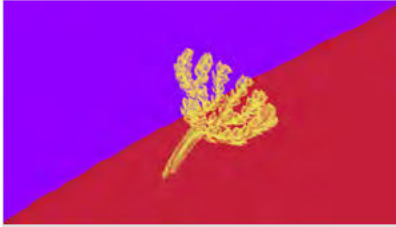
██████████. I am 17 years old. I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████. I have lived in Illinois for 11 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my flag I included Abraham Lincoln since he is known to represent Illinois. I included the year 1673 because that's the year Illinois was discovered by Louis Jolliet and Jesuit Father Jacques Marquette. I also used the colors white and blue since in my opinion I feel those represent IL due to the water and the clear sky.

2553

Relationship to Illinois



██████████. I am 17 years old. I am a student of Ridgewood High school in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as a part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In this flag, there are only three colors. The purple is a representation of the Illinois flower, violet. The red is the representation of the Illinois bird, cardinal. The color yellow is used to color the wheat. The wheat represent the farming that happens in Illinois. The reason why is because even though there is Chicago, the rest of the state is made up of agricultural.

2554

Relationship to Illinois



██████████. I am 17. I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████. I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top blue stripe represents the sky, the middle white stripe represents important values like honesty, purity, and new beginnings. The bottom green stripe represents the land, more specifically how Illinois is the prairie state. The bird in the middle is supposed to mirror the stained glass fixture that can be found in the Illinois Capital House on the ceiling, kind of representing the heart of Illinois. The border represents the Illinois state flower, violets, which also symbolize faith.

2555

Relationship to Illinois

██████████. I am 18. I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag colors are green, purple, and black. In the middle of the flag, I drew the Illinois state flower, Common Blue Violet. The colors of the whole flag represent the colors of the specific flower. The sides of the flag are green, which represents the stem of the flower. The middle of the flag is a violet purple, which represents the purple pedals of the state flower. All in all, the flag is supposed to be the Common Blue Violet flower as a flag.

2556

Relationship to Illinois

██████████, 17 years old, and a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, IL. I have lived in ██████████ for eight years. I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is reputable for its agriculture. The violets on the edge of the branch the bird is perched on represent our state flower and add color beyond the red theme. The piece of wheat compliments the theme of agriculture and a crop that's abundant in Illinois. The cardinal, symbolic of the state bird, is a symbol I felt drawn to and many who live here associate that bird with Illinois. The red background I feel makes the flag stand out more in comparison to the standard white background.

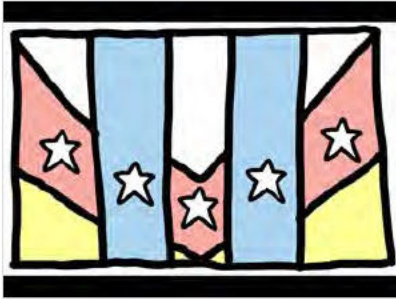
2557

Relationship to Illinois

_____. I am 17. I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. I live in _____ I have lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

To start off, the two blue strips going vertical are both blue and represent the Great Lakes of Illinois, including Lake Michigan. The yellow on the bottom of the flag represents Illinois corn and soybean production which are very important to the economy. The five stars represent Illinois being the fifth state added after the original 13 colonies. The red represents the state bird, the red Northern Cardinal. Lastly, the white on the flag represents peace and tranquillity, which is Illinois.



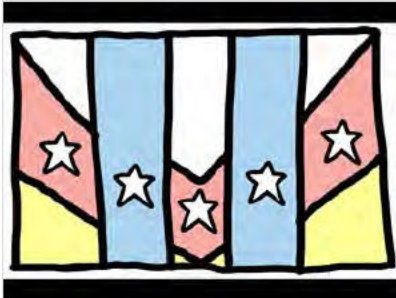
2558

Relationship to Illinois

_____. I am 17. I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. _____. I have lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

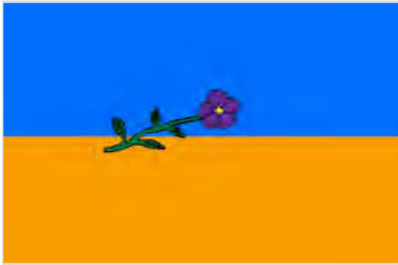
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The colors I chose for the flag are gold and turquoise. I chose those colors because it reminds me of prairie colors. Illinois is known as the prairie state since prairies are over 60% of the land. The Illinois tree is the white oak and I feel is a very beautiful tree. Then decided to put the state animal which is a white tailed deer. I think the symbols I chose resembles well that Illinois is a nature state.

2561

Relationship to Illinois



██████████, I am 17 years old. I am a student at Ridgewood high school in norridge, Illinois. I am submitting a flag as part of my civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████. I've lived in Illinois for almost 9 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange represents the fire, and freedom. the blue represents the skyline, Chicago river, and stability. and the violet represents the state flower as long as faith, mystical awareness, inspiration, spiritual passion, profuseness, and sovereignty

2562

Relationship to Illinois



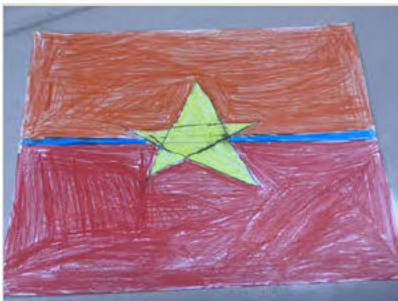
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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green box on the left represents Illinois as the "Prairie State" The red triangle represents the color of our states bird, the "Red Northern Cardinal" The purple triangle represents the color of our state flower, the "Violet Flower"

2563

Relationship to Illinois



██████████, I'm 17 years old. I am a student of Ridgewood High School in Norridge Illinois. I am submitting my flag as port of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████. I lived in Illinois for 17 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I choose 4 colors for my flag. Red, orange, blue, and yellow. The reason I chose these colors are; red because our state bird, the Nothern Cardinal, Orange for our state food ,popcorn, and they both also represent the Chicago fire. Blue represents the Chicago river and Lake Michigan. Yellow represents corn. The star represents us as a State. And the blue line shows how Chicago is split in half because the river.

2564

Relationship to Illinois

██████████. I am 17, I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois, I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green box on the left represents Illinois as the "Prairie State" The 4 stars in the green box represents the 4 important events from Chicago (Inspiration from Chicago Flag) The red triangle represents the color of our states bird, the "Red Northern Cardinal" The purple triangle represents the color of our state flower, the "Violet Flower"

2565

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of the state. I was born here, I have raised my family here and was educated here. Also, I have worked in the Illinois Senate since 2001.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The current flag isn't bad - just poorly executed. I reinterpreted in the minimalist style. The eagle is in action, flying at the viewer while holding a red-white-blue shield for America. The three stars represent the three regions of the state. Two olive branches represent our shared peaceful values such as liberty, justice and equality. Twenty one leaves represent the 21st state. The disk in the middle is the rising sun and the blue at the bottom is water - most Illinoisans wake up this way.

2566

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Turkish-American architectural historian and a proud Illinois resident. Since moving here in 2007, I got married, started my first teaching job, purchased a house, and became a father of two. During my visits to various parts of the state for the last seventeen years, I have been completely blown away by its history, natural wonders, and built environments. Illinois fascinates me as a place where people from various backgrounds can come together and live freely and in harmony.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four stripes celebrate the four seasons that can be experienced to the fullest in Illinois. They also represent water (the rivers and the lakes), land (the prairies, forests, and farms), architecture (from Cahokia to Chicago), and clear sky. The star is a homage to Abraham Lincoln and the state's commitment to the Union. The pumpkin with the official state bird (the Cardinal) and the official state insect (the Monarch Butterfly) highlights Illinois' bountiful agriculture and healthy fauna.



2567

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen/resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

****EDITED VERSION**** The star in the middle of the flag was made based off of the Illiniwek tribe symbol because Illinois was named after them. The 3 blue lines behind the symbol represent the rivers that border our state; the Mississippi river, Ohio river, and Wabash river. The 2 beige stripes represent the crop lands in Illinois.



2568

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria, raised in the town of Washington, and now call Champaign home, where I founded Clanin Creative, an LGBTQ+ owned agency. My journey as an entrepreneur began with invaluable support from the IL Small Business Development Center. I graduated from Illinois State University and my family has called Illinois home since the early 1800s. My brother-in-law is a 6th-generation farmer whose family has been farming here for generations. I am very proud to call our beautiful state home!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design celebrates Illinois' stunning landscape and its vital role in agriculture. The 21 rows of crops honor Illinois as the 21st state, while the beautiful blue shade symbolizes our expansive skies and the waters of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. One bold star stands proudly to represent our place in the American flag. It's simple, memorable design makes it instantly recognizable, a symbol of Illinois' heritage.

2569

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the western suburbs of Chicago (Lombard & Oak Brook) and attended school through high school here in Illinois (Hammerschmidt Elementary, Glenn Westlake Middle School, and Benet Academy). I currently work for the Illinois Collaboration on Youth in a communications & community outreach position. I've spent many hours traveling the state for work, pleasure, and to get to and from St. Louis (where I went to college). I love this state and its rich history and culture.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a simple flag, but artistic and meaningful to me. I grew up in the Chicago suburbs, but in downstate Illinois (I went to school in St. Louis), I saw some of the most brilliant sunsets I've ever seen. Pink, purple, blue, yellow, and many other colors came together on the horizon as the sun bid farewell for the day. This flag represents that--the sun is blended with the horizon, and the gold fields (of agriculture) offer a contrast against the purple sky.

2570

Relationship to Illinois

I was adopted from China and brought back to Illinois when I was about one year old. I have spent the last 23 years growing up in Illinois with the strong environment of love, curiosity, and education. I want to give back to my state by representing it proudly with my flag design. I appreciate your time looking over my submission. Thank you!



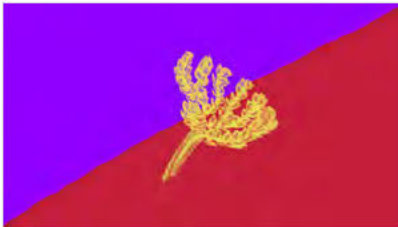
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The jagged split between the middle of the flag represents the shape of Chicago. The 13 blue stars represent the 13 colonies that were also placed/represented on the previous Illinois flag. The red color was chosen to represent our state bird, the Cardinal. The last two colors were chosen because it represents the United States flag colors. Placement of the split represents when Illinois entered the Union. I split the flag into 50 equal marks and placed the start (top) of Illinois at the 21 mark.

2571

Relationship to Illinois

██████████. I am 17 years old. I am a student of Ridgewood High school in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as a part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████



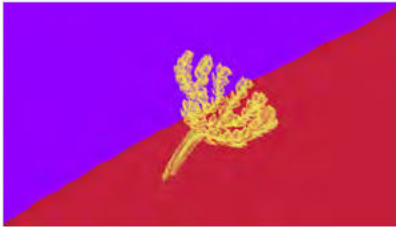
Explain the meaning behind your flag

In this flag, there are only three colors. The purple is a representation of the Illinois flower, violet. The red is the representation of the Illinois bird, cardinal. The color yellow is used to color the wheat. The wheat represent the farming that happens in Illinois. The reason why is because even though there is Chicago, the rest of the state is made up of agricultural.

2572

Relationship to Illinois

██████████. I am 17 years old. I am a student of Ridgewood High school in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as a part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. ██████████



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In this flag, there are only three colors. The purple is a representation of the Illinois flower, violet. The red is the representation of the Illinois bird, cardinal. The color yellow is used to color the wheat. The wheat represent the farming that happens in Illinois. The reason why is because even though there is Chicago, the rest of the state is made up of agricultural.

2573

Relationship to Illinois

My Mother immigrated from the Philippines to Chicago Illinois. My Dad moved to Chicago from rural New York in 2011 and I was born in Chicago Illinois. I am an 8th grader currently living in Illinois.



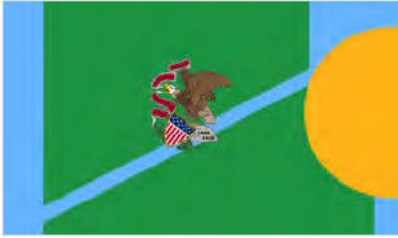
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents a multitude of things. The cardinal, sitting on violets are the state bird and state flowers. There are 21 stars because Illinois was the 21st state of America. It was founded in 1818 as stated on the banner, as well as the nickname the Prairie state and its name Illinois in the background is the iconic background of Chicago's skyline.

2574

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong Illinois resident. I've lived in Madison, Montgomery, Macoupin, Jackson, Christian, and Winnebago Counties throughout my life and traveled and worked throughout the state. In this submission the modified state seal could be removed to be a plain symbolic flag. The state seal was modified to remove the rising sun and water depicted since those elements are depicted on the flag design itself.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue shapes represent major waterways, the Mississippi, Illinois, and Ohio Rivers, and Lake Michigan, which make up the primary borders of our state. The green represents nature, as on a map, but green also represents growth, hope, renewal, diversity, equity, and inclusion. The yellow shape represents the rising sun as a token of a new age, new beginnings; in the Bible, the sun points to Jesus, God's eternal Son, Matthew depicts Jesus as a sun rising to shed light on people in darkness.

2575

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Chicago my entire life, born and raised in the Beverly neighborhood and living in various neighborhoods around the city for the past 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag contains three images within one. The first is of a railroad track, an allusion to Illinois' historical role as a central railroad hub throughout the US. The second is of illuminated windows, an reference to the history of urban architecture and skyscrapers in Illinois. The third is a minimal interpretation of Illinois' abbreviation "ILL." The blue represents the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan on either side of the state, while the yellow represents the vast farmland in between.



2576

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 6th grade middle schooler at OLMCA in Chicago Illinois. Our art teacher Ms. Britton asked us to participate in this contest as one of our assignments.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I came up with the drawing by thinking of what America is known for so i put red white and blue as the colors and an eagle holding a sword and a torch. Then i found inspiration from my friends and used yellow arrows through the middle and i finally outlines it in sharpie and wrote 1818 and Illinois on the top and bottom.



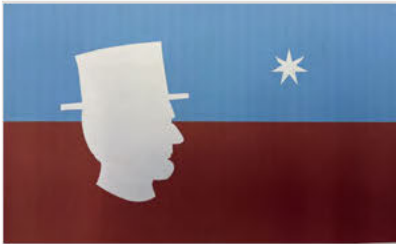
2577

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I was born in La Grange, Illinois and have lived in the state for most of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The "Lincoln Prairie Silhouette Flag" is inspired by the general layout of the Juneteenth flag but using sky blue and maroon. This flag features a silhouette of Abe Lincoln looking towards the star of ever more perfect union, justice, and freedom. The simple horizontality also evokes the Illinois prairie and the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright, while the colors evoke a strong Chicago connection.



2578

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Turkish-American architectural historian and a proud Illinois resident. Since moving here in 2007, I got married, started my first teaching job, purchased a house, and became a father of two. During my visits to various parts of the state for the last seventeen years, I have been completely blown away by its history, natural wonders, and built environments. Illinois fascinates me as a place where people from various backgrounds can come together and live freely and in harmony.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four stripes celebrate the four seasons that can be experienced to the fullest in Illinois. They also represent water (the rivers and the lakes), land (the prairies, forests, and farms), built environments, and uninterrupted skies. The star is a homage to Abraham Lincoln and the state's commitment to the Union. The pumpkin with the official state bird (the Cardinal) and the official state insect (the Monarch Butterfly) highlights Illinois' bountiful agriculture and healthy fauna.

2579

Relationship to Illinois

██████████ and I am a Junior at Intrinsic High School. I was born in ██████████ Illinois and lived here my entire life. Illinois is where I have met all of my friends and made lots of great memories. When I thin of Illinois all I think about my life in ██████████. I love the food, the big buildings, and the city lights at night. I just wish the community was safer to live in and less violent because I love it here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that the 21 stars are for the time that Illinois joined the Union. 1818 is for when Illinois was founded. The pond in the middle is for Lake Michigan. The white tailed deer on top of Lake Michigan is our state animal which is a white tailed-deer. The purple in the background is our state flower which is a violet.

2580

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I was born in La Grange, Illinois and have lived in the state for most of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The "Railsplitter Sunburst Flag" features blue, diagonal which symbolizes the Illinois River connecting the Great Lakes and Mississippi watersheds, while the seven-pointed star evokes Cook County and Chicagoland. An orange sunburst representing promise for the future (cf. the sun on the state seal) is formed from four straight rails, referencing Abe Lincoln as the "railsplitter president" and the rich architectural heritage of Chicago and the state.



2581

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Turkish-American architectural historian and a proud Illinois resident. Since moving here in 2007, I got married, started my first teaching job, purchased a house, and became a father of two. During my visits to various parts of the state for the last seventeen years, I have been completely blown away by its history, natural wonders, and built environments. Illinois fascinates me as a place where people from various backgrounds can come together and live freely and in harmony.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four stripes celebrate the four seasons (from bottom to top: summer, fall, winter, and spring), which can be experienced to the fullest in Illinois. They also represent water (the rivers and the lakes), land (the prairies, forests, and farms), architecture (from Cahokia to Springfield, and Chicago), and uninterrupted skies. The star is a homage to Abraham Lincoln and the state's commitment to the Union.





2582

Relationship to Illinois

I live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the meaning behind my flag is simple I just wanted to do something simple did want to do much



2583

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, Illinois and have lived here all my life. I have lived in many neighborhoods around Chicago but I was born in the Galewood area. When I was younger my family and I would travel around Illinois and look at the landmarks. I have made many good and bad memories here but I feel very close to Illinois because this is where most of my family lives. I am always talking about leaving Illinois a lot but I know that I would never forget where home truly is.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose navy blue for the base to represent Lake Michigan, and allude to the Chicago flag. I put this drawing of the state of Illinois in the middle of my flag because Illinois. I put 21 stars on my flag so it can represent Illinois becoming the 21st state. I put a bald eagle to represent freedom and strength. Lastly, Lincoln was a very important person in Illinois so I put "Land of Lincoln, to represent him in the flag.



2584

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois Residents

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background represents Lake Michigan. The white background represents the Illinois state tree. In the center of the flag is the Illinois state bird. There are also 18 stars representing Illinois joining the United States in 1818 as the 21st state.

2585

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life, specifically in and around Chicago, but as much as I love this city, I feel just as connected to the beautiful nature of the state and spend much of my time going to forest preserves with my wife (also a lifelong Illinois resident). I formerly worked as an educator in the Western suburbs and currently work in historic house museums, connecting guests from around the world to some of Illinois' most culturally and historically significant buildings.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The center of the flag has a pudgy little cardinal resting on some violets, reflecting our state bird and flower respectively. The stripes invoke the colors of natural Illinois landscapes, especially forests and prairies, the specific shades being inspired by those used in flags and traditional art of the Neshnabe and Cahokia peoples. The geometric designs are meant to invoke the prairie style art glass of Frank Lloyd Wright, meant in part to represent the meeting of nature and modernity.

2586

Relationship to Illinois

██████████ and I am a Junior at Intrinsic High School. I was born in ██████████ Illinois and lived here my entire life. Illinois is where I have met all of my friends and made lots of great memories. When I thin of Illinois all I think about my life in ██████████. I love the food, the big buildings, and the city lights at night. I just wish the community was safer to live in and less violent because I love it here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that the 21 stars is when Illinois joined the Union. 1818 means when Illinois was founded. The pond in the middle is supposed to be Lake Michigan. The animal in the middle above Lake Michigan is our state animal which is the white tailed-deer. The background color is the state flower color which is a violet.

2587

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to the State of Illinois at the age of 13, I came here for a better life, and better education from Colorado, as someone that like to learn about the history of the United States, and the whole Americas, I wanted to make a flag that I think reflects Illinois' past and future, it's geopolitical state and culture.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue at the sides of the flag represents our natural borders, which tend to be bodies of water for the most part, such as the Mississippi river and the lake Michigan. The flour-de-lis represents Illinois' past as part of Louisiana, and subsequently, France, from which the suffix "-ois" come from. The Illini colors represent what I deem Illinois' state colors, which for me, are the wonderful mornings and nights of the state. The top star represents Springfield, while the bottom one; Chicago.



2588

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois. The red stars represent Chicago and they are borrowed from Chicago's flag. The lake represents all the lakes in Illinois. The eagle represents that Illinois is a part of America. The water droplets under the eagle represent how Illinois is rising up to be a successful state.



2589

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois. The fruit arch represents farmland. The flag represents America because we live in America. The eagle represents our state bird. The state is on my flag.



2590

Relationship to Illinois

██████████ and I am a Junior at Intrinsic High School. I was born in ██████████ Illinois and lived here my entire life. Illinois is where I have met all of my friends and made lots of great memories. When I thin of Illinois all I think about my life in ██████████. I love the food, the big buildings, and the city lights at night. I just wish the community was safer to live in and less violent because I love it here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Meaning behind my flag is that the 21 stars are when the state joined the Union. 1818 means when Illinois was founded. The pound in the middle is supposed to be Lake Michigan. The animal above Lake Michigan is our state animal which is the white tailed-deer. The background color is the state flower which is a violet.



2591

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the state of Illinois. I did the red, white and blue for the states. I also did the shape of Illinois for Illinois.



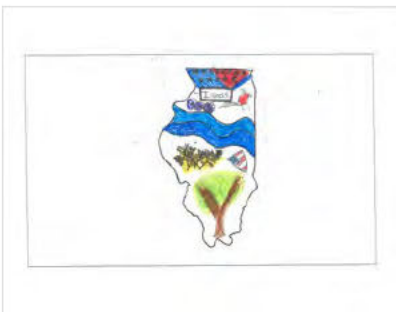
2592

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put a tree because the state tree is white oak tree. The squiggly lines represent rivers, streams and lakes. The blue represents the water. The leaves and crosses are prairie grass. I did like half of a flag because in the old flag it had one and I thought it would be nice to include that. I drew violets because they are the state flower. I drew a cardinal because it is the state bird. On the very top are 13 stars because in Illinois there are 1,300 municipalities.



2593

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents Illinois because it has Illinois' shape with an American flag because Illinois is right in the middle of the United States. The Illinois sign below it just tells you that it is Illinois in case you didn't know. Then the buildings below represent Chicago, the biggest city in Illinois, and so do the 2 stars that are 6 sided. Overall the flag represents the great state of Illinois also known as the land of Lincoln.



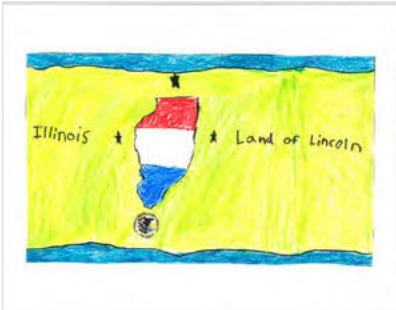
2594

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green and yellow on my flag represent the prairie state. The red, white and blue represents America. The star on top represents Abraham Lincoln and the star on the right represents the Willis tower. The star on the left represents farming and hogs. The blue on top represents the Mississippi River and the one on the bottom represents Lake Michigan.



2595

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I was born and raised in Illinois. I learned everything I know here. My family is from Illinois, born and raised in Illinois. I plan on going to a college in Illinois. I plan to live the rest of my life in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The color I would be doing for my flag would be red. I chose this color for the background to represent the Chicago fire. The next color I would be doing for my flag would be blue. I chose this color for the background to represent Lake Michigan. The next color I would be doing for my flag would be white. I chose this color for the background to represent purity and innocence. The next element would be a star. I chose this star for the background to represent the Illinois.



2596

Relationship to Illinois

██████████. I was born in New Jersey and was raised in Puerto Rico until I was 3. At the age of 4 I moved to Illinois and I didn't know any English. Learning a new language and trying to communicate with kids your age but not knowing how is hard. I have lived in Illinois now for 12 years and I have loved every moment being here. Illinois has brought good and bad moments but I wouldn't trade anything for the world.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose this design because the cardinal is a part of Illinois history and the northern cardinal is represented as our state bird which was chosen by school students. I chose the purple violet because I want to represent the cultural aspects of Illinois and Illinois was the 4th state to choose the violet as its state flower. I also incorporated different flowers on the borders to represent the multi-differences of things. I added a fountain because it represents renewal transformation.



2597

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is I was born here and I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Explain the meaning behind your flag: My flag colors are Yellow, Light Blue, Periwinkle, and green. The color green represents nature. The color Yellow represents Happiness. The color Blue represents Bravery. The color periwinkle represents our state flower Illinois native violet. The sun is different because it is not only yellow it is also green and blue. And the flowers around it are the Illinois state flower. And the corners are just a little design. Thank you so much to the Illinois government f



2598

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I am a resident here in Chicago, Illinois. I like living here because my family is here and so are my friends. I like going to the beach, going to park, learning about our history, and how we became the 21st state. Illinois is also the state that has the city Oak Lawn, the place where I was born. I like Illinois because we are close to one of the great lakes.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The grass lines The green lines represent the grass because we are nicknamed the prairie state. I tried to make it look like green blades of grass. The year 1818 The year 1818 is the year that Illinois became the 21st state. I thought it was important to include the year. The shape of the state. The reason I chose the shape of the state to be on the flag is because the flag we are making is to represent the state. The flower in the middle of the state shape is a violet, the state flower.



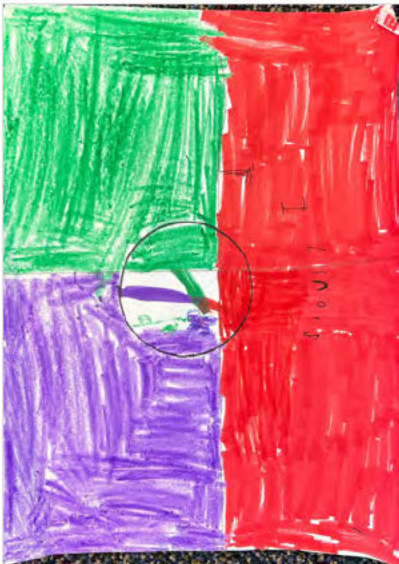
2599

Relationship to Illinois

Living in it. Going to school there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

So the red means love. And the green means peace. And finally purple means Royalty.



2600

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois who lives in Chicago. I've been here for about most of my childhood, except a bit of it. I've gotten used to nearly most of the well known areas in Chicago, parts of Illinois. I have yet to discover a few though. I still have to see what restaurants out there to visit & try. I have yet to see what iconic well known and under the radar places in Illinois to discover yet. I am basically still a teen waiting to uncover what most of Illinois has to behold.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Element: My first flag element will have the stars of Illinois. Element Description: It will have 14 stars representing 1846 to 1848. Element: My 2nd flag element will have the Illinois state bird on top of the state animal. Element Description: It will be filled in with nature. riding the deer or landing on the deer. Element: It will be with the Illinois state flower. Element Description: flower bow on its head or a crown of the state flowers on its head. Element: My design element #5

2601

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago. I've been here all my life. I feel inspired by the nice architecture. From Illinois they have nice looking animals and they are very noticeable. The lake is also very famous and I felt inspired by it. I also got inspired by the Chicago flag that has the 4 stars and they all mean something.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

the Northern cardinal. the blue on the flag represents the waters that are around Illinois. the cloud gate represents the architecture in Illinois. 1818 because it was the year Illinois became the 21st state. The first star is for Fort Dearborn, the second represents the Great Chicago Fire, the third and fourth stand for the two world's fairs that took place in Chicago.

2602

Relationship to Illinois

I live in illinois i've been here in all my life, one thing I like to share is my experience at wheaton college i was able to discover more about illinois state colleges i was able to get that experience one thing i also enjoy fishing with my grandpa at lake michigan we use to go in with the boats that we use to have so it alot activities that i have done in illinois A whole lot family thing

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design element is the cardinal in the middle representing the state Bird. I put this here to show a little history on the state to give a little more details on the state. red and blue color I chose this because of the color choice between red and blue that represent democratic and republic to show the separated parties.



2603

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, and my family lives in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the colors blue, orange, black, and yellow. Blue means trust and calmness, Orange means happiness, black means power, yellow means energy.





2604

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents the bravery that Illinois makes just like a lion.



2605

Relationship to Illinois

I love Lake Michigan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A cardinal on a hill. in front of Lake Michigan. Also I added Chicago in the back.



2606

Relationship to Illinois

I moved when I was 6 years old and have lived here since I'm now 16 years old and I love the chicago and going to school in the city its a great place.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted my flag to be simple and I also wanted people to understand the stuff on the flag and the flower and the colors which is why I made it so simple.



2607

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I was born here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The first meaning of my flag is that the cardinal means power. The oak tree represents the long life of the state. The deer represents the sweetness of your state. The red represents strength. The green means harmony.

2608

Relationship to Illinois

Lived in Illinois all 17 years of my life. I was raised in the Chicago suburbs but live in Rock Island County now, so I understand the divide between Chicago and the rest of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue background with white stripes representing the river and lakeside beaches and cities. Twenty small stars orbiting a large star representing the industry and spirit of Illinois laborers, whether in manufacturing or agriculture. I designed it to be distinct and recognizable while fitting in with the other blue-flagged states on our borders. I made this before seeing Springfield's flag, so I believe that this flag is what a representation of Illinois naturally gravitates to.





2609

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is that I was born here, I go to school here, and I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of my flag is the state insect, a Monarch Butterfly. I love seeing Monarch Butterflies around and I'm sure others do too! My flag also says Illinois on the very top so everyone can know it's Illinois. Thank you for looking into my flag!



2610

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I was born there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that green means nature, yellow means warmth, white means cleanness, blue means trust and calmness, I put yellow on the bottom because in the bottom there's a core and that's the meaning of my flag.



2611

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I was born here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that the cardinal represents the Illinois state bird. And the two red stars represent the Chicago fire and the other one represents Fort Dearborn.

2612



Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with the Illinois is I live here I was born in raised in the state of Illinois and I am a registered us citizen here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My First element is the violet flower.I chose this for one of my elements because it represents the state of Illinois and allude to the Illinois flag. Illinois was the first of four states to choose the violet as its State Flower.

2613



Relationship to Illinois

i was born in illinois, go to school in illinois and live in illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

my flag has the short side on the bottom and the long side on the side .It looks like a capital I. Having the top vertical line being yellow and the bottom vertical line being blue. and the middle horizontal line being red. The yellow means energy, the blue means determination and the red means courage .

2614



Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I have lived here all my life and I would love to Show my love to this state which is by making the new flag to this state and I would love to see it all over the state and

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the meaning of my flag is that the freedom bird is holding the biggest meaning of our state which is the bean and its a an amazing . and the background it shows the great different types of lands on our state which is the great trees and the hot beaches and in the back that's all blue is great Michigan because most people either swim in it or either travel with there boat and in the back shows a good nest so the great freedom bird can put her beautiful egg (bean) in its nest

2615

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of the Great State of Illinois. Though I was not born here, like many before me I came seeking opportunity and a place to start my family. I have immense pride in my adopted state, both its rich history and willingness to stand for progress and freedom. I love our seasons, our cities, our fertile soil. I couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Eagle Star flag celebrates our heritage of commitment to the Nation. 21 stars on a navy blue field represent our admission to the union, and are arranged in the shape of an eagle rising. The orange-hued gold of these stars represents the sun rising over the fertile fruits of the prairie and a new day ahead. Light blue stripes at the fringe and fly represent the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. This flag acknowledges symbols of the current flag while offering a simpler, refined design.



2616

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student in Illinois, I live in Illinois, and I was born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag that I made has the state flower in the middle a purple violet, it has green which represents growth, peace, harmony, hope, and health, it also has yellow which represents happiness, optimism, warmth, confidence, ambition, the last color it has is purple which means creativity and spirituality. Those are the meanings of my flag



2617



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 7th middle schooler at OLMCA in Chicago Illinois. Our art teacher Ms. Britton asked us to participate in this contest as one of our assignments. I have lived in Illinois for just over 2 years and I love it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag consists of many componenets theat represent Illinois. For example, the white tailed deer and the violets that are the state animal and flower. The beach in the background is lake Michigan. I also kept the original details such as the rock with dates , the sun, and the ribbon.

2618



Relationship to Illinois

Hi My name is [REDACTED] and I am 13 years old and I have lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On my flag, it shows a cardinal which is the state bird and the common blue violet , the state flower. It also has 18 stars symbolizing it was an official state in 1818.

2619



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of the Great State of Illinois. Though I was not born here, like many before me, I came seeking opportunity and a place to start my family. I have immense pride in my adopted state, it's rich history and willingness to take a stand for progress and freedom. I love our seasons, our cities, our fertile soil. I couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Prairie Sunrise flag celebrates our productive land and commitment to progress. A Navy field represents our devotion to the Union. The white sun at center rises over bright orange-gold, representing the fertility of the prairie and the promise of a new day ahead, with 16 rays in honor of Lincoln's presidency. At top, 5 light blue bars represent our great waters: Lake Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio, Wabash & Illinois Rivers. 5 stripes and 16 rays make 21, symbolizing admission to union.

2620

Relationship to Illinois

As a lifelong Illinoisian my roots run deep in the Midwest. And as an Art Director, I have a passion for design. I believe that with good design comes a sense of pride and ownership that is infectious. I welcome you to read my translation below on what this Illinois flag design means to me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The deep blue prominently featured represents Lake Michigan which is vital to the state's ecosystem and economy. It also represents the numerous rivers that weave through Illinois, including the iconic Mississippi and Chicago Rivers, both instrumental to the state's development and trade. The gold polysemous icon in the center is symbolic of an eagle representing freedom and strength, a blazing sun symbolizing hope and prosperity, and rows of crops highlighting the state's agricultural heritage.

2621

Relationship to Illinois

As a lifelong Illinoisian my roots run deep in the Midwest. And as an Art Director, I have a passion for design. I believe that with good design comes a sense of pride and ownership that is infectious. I welcome you to read my translation below on what this Illinois flag design means to me.



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2622

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of the Great State of Illinois. Though I was not born here, like many before me, I came seeking opportunity and a place to start my family. I have immense pride in my adopted state, it's rich history and willingness to take a stand for progress and freedom. I love our seasons, our cities, our fertile soil. I couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Forward flag celebrates our commitment to a great future. A navy blue chevron represents our devotion to the Union (as Land of Lincoln), and our dedication to forward progress. Three orange-gold stars within represent our future, present and past, with seven points each to total 21 points, symbolizing our admission to the union. A split field in light blue and white represent our waters (rivers & L. Michigan) at bottom, and the broad open sky over the prairie at top.



2623

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [redacted] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High. I live in [redacted] Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The buildings in the background = Chicago, the cardinal = our state bird, the corn = what we grow, the popcorn = our state snack, the fish = our state fish, the flower = our state flower, the butterfly = our state butterfly.



2624

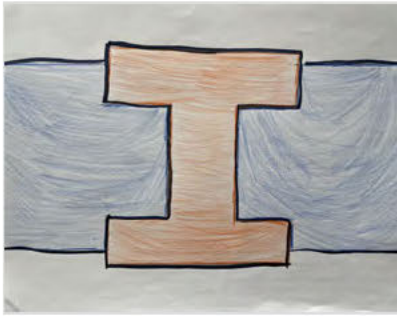
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [redacted] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High. [redacted]

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - It has Abraham Lincoln, due to him being pretty important to Illinois. It has a drawing of Illinois and some corn because a lot of corn and other crops are grown in Illinois.





2625

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High [REDACTED]

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I = Illinois. Orange and navy = U of I colors.



2626

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High. I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The deer antlers = the state animal, the white-tailed deer. The Willis Tower = Chicago. Yellow = corn. Red = the state bird, the cardinal. Orange = pumpkins, our most produced crop. Blue = Lake Michigan and the Illinois River. Green = fertile agriculture and beautiful landscapes.



2627

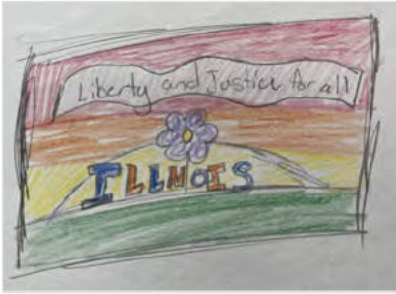
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High. I live in a small village in [REDACTED] and even though it is small I still have tons of fun!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The banner represents the phrase, "Liberty and Justice for All." The corn stalks represent that we are part of the corn belt. The colors on the Illinois sign represent the U of I - the Illini. The grass represents all of the fields in Illinois.

2628



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High.I live in a small village in [REDACTED] and even though it is small I still have tons of fun!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The banner represents the phrase, "Liberty and Justice for All." Teh corn stalks represent that we are part of the corn belt. The colors on the Illinois sign represent the U of I -the Illini. The grass represents all of the fields in Illinois.

2629



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High.Born and raised Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -On my flag I drew a cardinal bird which represents our state bird and I drew an I for Illinois-Illini. Corn represents our agriculture and Springfield is our capital and the rock is the year Abraham Lincoln became president. Est. Dec 3rd, 1818 represents the year Illinois became a state. The sun over the water symbolizes our seal. The stripes are on the USA flag so I put it on my flag.

2630



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High.Born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -It has an eastern cottontail on it. Lake Michigan and says one country one destiny like on Lincolns coat. And some corn.



2631

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High [REDACTED]

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - On my flag is the American flag, state bird, Lake Michigan, and the year Illinois became a state.



2632

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - On the bottom the water represents all the rivers we have.



2633

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High [REDACTED]

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - 13 dots = Illinois was the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment to the Constitution abolishing slavery. Abraham Lincoln = by 1840 Lincoln was the leader of the whig party in Illinois. City = Chicago plays a huge role in Northeastern Illinois. Cow, grass, birds, sun = large areas of prairie covered Illinois when the first settlers arrived.



2634

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High [REDACTED]

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Common blue violets are the state flower. We are the main state that grows corn. Eagle represents the USA. Abraham Lincoln was a president.

2635

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High.I live in Illinois in a village and go to school at Mt. Zion.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The bald eagle represents the American flag. The corn is one of the plants Illinois is known for growing and the cardinal bird is the Illinois state bird.



2636

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -State motto, corn, when Illinois became a state and when Abraham Lincoln lived in Illinois. The eagle and red, white and blue color scheme represent America. The 13 stars and stripes represent the 13 original colonies. State Sovereignty, National Union is the state motto. The corn represents how Illinois is the 2nd largest corn producer in America. Dec 3, 1818, is when Illinois became a state. 1830-1861 is when Abraham Lincoln lived in Illinois.



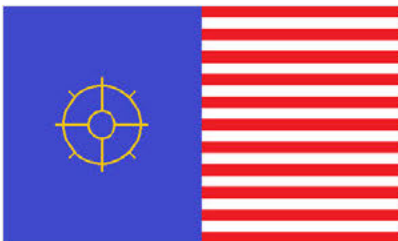
2637

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when young. I have lived here ever since. I graduated Oregon High School as an Illinois State Scholar, attended NIU and was a Student Association Senator. I was directly involved with disbanding the Board of Regents and granting NIU and ISU their own Boards of Trustees, which included a request to visit Springfield to meet with Governor Edgar and members of the General Assembly.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue is for the Union and Illinois' boundary waters: Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and Lake Michigan. Gold represents wealth and Goldenrod prairie flowers. The wheel recalls paddle boats, tractor and caterpillar drive wheels, and sprockets. The Wheel of Wealth sections (clockwise): industry, minerals, agriculture, arts & education, and the people at the center who bring it all together. Red (sacrifice) and white (peace) recall the US flag, with 21 stripes because Illinois was the 21st state.



2638

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High.I have lived in Illinois for ten years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The red & blue background & white center imply that IL is part of the US. The gear in the middle symbolizes our state's industry & production. Willis (Sears) Tower represents Chicago, as the large city plays a big role in the state of IL. IL is pretty much one big farming community & the corn stalks & soybeans illustrate agriculture's importance. The oak tree leaf & 2 cardinals indicate IL wildlife. The dates shown on the flag are the country's birthday & the day Illinois became a state



2639

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I'm a senior at Lisle High School in Lisle, IL . I love nature and have always been fond of exploring my state and discovering nature whether it be species of animals (Fauna) or plants (Flora). Illinois has been a beautiful place to grow.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background symbolizes Lake Michigan, the Cardinal is the state bird and the tree is the state tree, the White Oak. The design is symbiotic with all elements working together.



2640

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Mt. Zion Junior High.A citizen in [REDACTED] Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-It represents Chicago and America.



2641

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when young. I have lived here ever since. I graduated Oregon High School as an Illinois State Scholar, attended NIU and was a Student Association Senator. I was directly involved with disbanding the Board of Regents and granting NIU and ISU their own Boards of Trustees, which included a request to visit Springfield to meet with Governor Edgar and members of the General Assembly.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

White signifies peace. Blue refers to the Union and Illinois' boundary waters: Mississippi and Ohio Rivers and Lake Michigan. Gold represents wealth and Goldenrod prairie flowers. The wheel recalls paddle boats, tractor and caterpillar drive wheels, and sprockets. The Wheel of Wealth sections (clockwise): industry, minerals, agriculture, arts and education, and the people at the center who bring it all together. Angular shapes indicate movement and recall Native American arrowheads and history.

2642

Relationship to Illinois

I've spent my entire life in Illinois. I grew up in the western suburbs and now reside in downtown Chicago. Throughout my life, I've taken roadtrips around the state to explore its hidden gems. It is really magnificent and I've loved my life here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag I've submitted is a reimagining combining two Illinois flags, The Illinois Centennial flag and the Illinois Sesquicentennial flag. The 21 total stars represent Illinois' status as the 21st state with the 21st star being the same as the ones on Chicago's flag. The blue line in the middle is representative of the massive water ways throughout the state as well as our border to Lake Michigan. The green background is meant to reflect our beautiful plains and farmland.

2643

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home. Illinois is a land of opportunity -welcoming everyone from all backgrounds -and offering them the hope of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Illinois is a beacon in the midwestern wilderness calling out to all corners of the world to join the fight in uplifting our collective humanity. Illinois is an example of grit and persistence in pursuit of the American dream. Illinois constantly strives to do better. I am proud to live in the great state of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue & orange are Illini colors, & purple is the combination of red and blue (Democrats & Republicans). Rays of light are a symbol of hope (a bright future) & a nod to former President Barack Obama's campaign logo and the State's bicentennial flag. The white state symbolizes a blank canvas * meaning that the future of Illinois is shaped by its residents. 1818 references when Illinois became a state. Stars symbolize the other states of the union; the contrast shows Illinois stands on its own.

2644

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in a rural area outside Peoria. Growing up, my family traveled all over Illinois, exploring it's parks, lakes, cities, monuments, and museums. After high school, I moved to the Chicago suburbs to study visual communications and later settled in the city. Though I've traveled across the country and around the world, nowhere else offers the quality of life I find here. Illinois will always be my home, and I'm proud to have created a design that honors our great state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

On the hoist side, a 16-point gold sunburst honors 16th President Lincoln, each point representing Illinois' history & innovations. The central 5-point star symbolizes union with the USA & Illinois' core values. Together, totaling 21 points for the 21st state. Recalling the current flag, white symbolizes peace & prosperity. On the fly end, a green stylized shape of Illinois reflects Prairie State identity, agriculture & natural beauty. The blue stripe represents loyalty, justice & key waterways.

2645

Relationship to Illinois

After graduating from Ohio University in 1997 I moved to Chicago in early 1998 to begin my career as a graphic designer. I have lived here ever since. Residing for most of the last 26 years in the Bucktown neighborhood.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue represents water: left for 3 border rivers; right for Lake Michigan; linear angle in the state outline for IL & MI Canal and Chicago Area Waterway System, the only connection between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River basin. CAWS helped the rise of Chicago as a transportation and commerce hub. Yellow represents the prairies; white symbolizes the rising Chicago skyscrapers and the pyramids of the Cahokia National Heritage site. Lincoln's hat recalls the nickname "Land of Lincoln."

2646

Relationship to Illinois

After graduating from Ohio University in 1997 I moved to Chicago in early 1998 to begin my career as a graphic designer. I have lived here ever since. Residing for most of the last 26 years in the Bucktown neighborhood.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The six-pointed star is both a nod to Chicago's flag and a symbol of the six states bordering Illinois. The cropped star creates both four blue triangular panes representing the 3 bordering rivers and Lake Michigan and two green triangles representing the Illinois prairies and grasslands. IL state initials hold Lincoln's stovepipe hat, a shield to tie to the current state flag, and a seal with the date of statehood. Bluestem prairie grass icon represents the state grass and the "Prairie State."

2647

Relationship to Illinois

I am 78 years old and I have lived in Illinois my whole life and I intend to continue living in this wonderful state. Yesterday I sent this same flag design to you using the US Post Office's express overnight mail. Today, the Post Office is saying they cannot track it. It may be lost or you could have received it. They just don't know. Therefore, I am sending it again, but this time I am using the internet.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Star within a star stands for our state motto. The smaller star is for state sovereignty, the larger star is for national union. The white triangle is for IL pointing the way by being the first state to ratify the 13th amendment, abolishing slavery. The 1st blue stripe is for our vast skies. The Green stripe is for our farmlands, cities and towns. Bottom blue stripe is for our lakes and rivers, both inland and bordering IL. Flag points forward because IL continues to lead with hope and optimism.

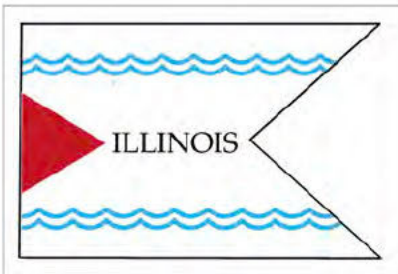
2648

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a transplant from Michigan about 40 years ago...

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is pretty simple. Both sides of the flag point to Illinois. One point is the notch of the flag pointing to ILLINOIS, the other side features a "point of interest" red triangle, as there is much to see in Illinois. The waters symbolize what is written in the state song: "by thy rivers gently flowing". I used the notch shape of the flag to distinguish Illinois from the proliferation of rectangular state flags so it stands out.



2649

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow in the flag stands for the prairie state of Illinois and the farming of Illinois it is at the bottom because most of farming in Illinois is in the southern part of Illinois. The blue stands for the waters near Chicago and Chicago itself it is on the top of the flag because Chicago and the waters are in the north. And the star in the middle is from the Chicago flag because Chicago is a major part of Illinois and it is in the middle because Springfield is the capitol it is in central IL

2650

Relationship to Illinois

After graduating from Ohio University in 1997 I moved to Chicago in early 1998 to begin my career as a graphic designer. I have lived here ever since. Residing for most of the last 26 years in the Bucktown neighborhood.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eagle and shield are reimagined and updated symbols from the current Illinois flag and shield, as are the sun rays in the background which appear in the existing seal. These also evoke wheat stalks or eagle feathers. The state outline forms the eagle body, and the 'I' is the state initial. Yellow in the wings represents the rolling yellow prairies. Blue in the wings symbolizes the four waterways bordering the state. The curve of the partial sun at the bottom creates the eagle's tail.

2651

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Highland Park, North of Chicago, all 17 years of my life. I see quite a lot of flaws and potential in this state, not excluding the flag!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 4 colors are meant to keep the flag somewhat simple, while still giving it a unique flare. The diagonal pattern also adds a unique aspect without making it overly complex. The green represents the vast forests and prairies of the state, and all other types of nature we have, while the yellow symbolizes the large agricultural scene (particularly corn). The gray displays the state's large industrial and tech scenes; and finally the blue is Lake Michigan, in its geographic position.



2652

Relationship to Illinois

Cameron is a lifelong resident of Illinois, having been born here in December 2016. He is very proud of his home state. Even though he is only in second-grade, Cameron taught himself, over the past 2 years or so, to recognize flags of all of the countries of the world, and also of all 50 US states and territories. He recognizes a unique flag design and believes Illinois is due for a fresh design - one that would ideally be easier for kids like him to draw.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is a superstar state. The flags stand tall, planted in the dirt of Illinois. The flag shows that Illinois is a part of the United States. The area that resembles the current state flag recognizes the past while celebrating the future. Chicago is a major part of Illinois that makes our state stand above the others as the sun shines on us. The different shades of blue represent the lakes, rivers, ponds, and canals that help make Illinois beautiful.



2653

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I have lived in Illinois my whole life and attend university at Illinois State

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to show the nature of the prairie state with the most known prairie animal as well as well known flora from around the state. I wanted to keep some similarities with the past by having a similar art style of the old flag as well as keeping the old font. I thought a bison symbolizes the reintroduction of the prairie in the prairie state as they are returning to the state.



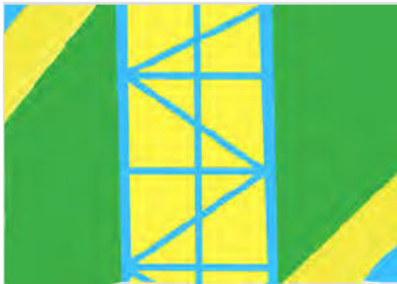
2654

Relationship to Illinois

We live here .

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents Lake Michigan, and the yellow represents the sun and happiness and the green represents the trees that are the city of Evanston because Evanston is the city of trees. And then the lines in the middle represent that starts the word Illinois.



2655

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago on Cubs' opening day and have lived in Illinois for the vast majority of my life! I love this state and it will always be home to me. My parents and grandparents are also from Illinois, and most of my family lives here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three fields of blue represent the lake, the Illinois river and the Mississippi River. The field of green represents the state's prairies, agriculture, natural resources, and state parks. The yellow star, an allusion to the star from the Chicago flag, represents Springfield, the gold color representing the state's prosperity. In the two submissions with railroad tracks -these represent the state's history of rail and its location in the middle of the country.



2656

Relationship to Illinois

This flag was designed by Wendy Negrón (concepts) & Matt Novak (digital visuals). Wendy conceived it and Matt brought it to life! Wendy is a 26-year resident of IL. When she discovered the Chicago Portage & the subcontinental divide, she fell in love with the region. Matt is a lifelong resident of IL and a Visual Communication major at the University of Kansas. Matt has a passion for graphic design & loves learning about IL. They met in Oak Park through Matt's good friend & Wendy's son,



Explain the meaning behind your flag

85% of what is now IL was covered by glaciers over 10,000 yrs ago. The diagonal orientation of the blue and green represents the advancing and melting ice sheets that left behind the prairie. IL is bordered by 880 miles of rivers and has 87,110 miles of rivers & streams within its borders. The graphic element is a stylized river in the shape of a confluence; a geographical feature where two or more rivers meet. Glaciation & confluence symbolize Illinoisan momentum and the meeting of minds.

2657

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago on Cubs' opening day and have lived in Illinois for the vast majority of my life! I love this state and it will always be home to me. My parents and grandparents are also from Illinois, and most of my family lives here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three fields of blue represent the lake, the Illinois river and the Mississippi River. The field of green represents the state's prairies, agriculture, natural resources, and state parks. The yellow star, an allusion to the star from the Chicago flag, represents Springfield, the gold color representing the state's prosperity.



2658

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

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2659

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago on Cubs' opening day and have lived in Illinois for the vast majority of my life! I love this state and it will always be home to me. My parents and grandparents are also from Illinois, and most of my family lives here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three fields of blue represent the lake, the Illinois river and the Mississippi River. The field of green represents the state's prairies, agriculture, natural resources, and state parks. The yellow star, an allusion to the star from the Chicago flag, represents Springfield, the gold color representing the state's prosperity. In the two submissions with railroad tracks - these represent the state's history of rail and its location in the middle of the country.



2660



Relationship to Illinois

Family is from Illinois. I love Illinois from my first visit and visit often.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Complimentary to the US Flag are 21 five-point stars for Illinois as 21st state arranged in the shape of a capital I meaning Illinois. The 21st star is largest and centered symbolizing Illinois in the center of the country. Flag has three colors and equal horizontal stripes. The stripes have three meanings: three branches of government; the past, present, and future; and the land, waters, and skies of Illinois. The colors are blue for justice, golden yellow for prosperity, and white for purity.

2661



Relationship to Illinois

Family is from Illinois. I love Illinois from my first visit and visit often.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Three equal vertical stripes with three meanings: three branches of government; the past, present, and future; and the land, waters, and skies of Illinois. The blue center stripe has 21 white stars from the US Flag for Illinois as the 21st state and arranged in a capital I with the center star representing Illinois itself. The 21 stars are in the center stripe for Illinois in the center of the country. The three colors are blue for justice, golden yellow for prosperity, and white for purity.

2662



Relationship to Illinois

Family is from Illinois. I love Illinois from my first visit and visit often.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Three equal horizontal golden yellow stripes with three meanings: the three equal branches of governments and the fertile fields of the state, separated by two thin blue stripes for distinction. From the US Flag and also positioned on the flag's left are 21 white stars for Illinois on blue symbolizing Illinois as the 21st state and arranged in a capital I with the center star representing Illinois itself. The three colors are blue for justice, golden yellow for prosperity, and white for purity.

2663

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I attended college for four years in another state, but moved back to Illinois upon graduation, and have lived in Chicago for the past decade. I fully intend to live in Illinois for my entire life. My great grandparents immigrated to Chicago at the beginning of the 20th century, and my family has remained in the Chicagoland area ever since.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stripes are made up of geometric patterns inspired by designs created by tribes of the Illinois Confederation. There are 18 red triangles on the top and 18 red triangles on the bottom, in honor of the year that Illinois was accepted into the union. There are two Chicago-style six pointed stars in the middle, representing the two tenets of the Illinois state motto: state sovereignty and national unity. The white background provides a throughline with the current state flag.

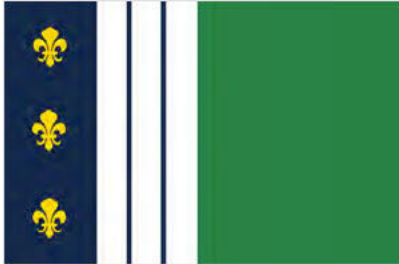
2664

Relationship to Illinois

Life long resident of the State of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists of three fields. Blue with gold fleurs de lis, representing the state's frontier origins and Lake Michigan. White with blue lines, representing the Chicagoland and the waterways vital to the industrial and commercial life of the State. Green, representing the natural and agricultural vastness of the State. It is the image of a State of progress and abundance rising from the lakefront and spreading West, labor and commerce, culture and agriculture, wealth and wellbeing.



2665

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow in the flag stands for the prairie state of Illinois and the farming of Illinois it is at the bottom because most of farming in Illinois is in the southern part of Illinois. The blue stands for the waters near Chicago and Chicago itself it is on the top of the flag because Chicago and the waters are in the north. And the star in the middle is from the Chicago flag because Chicago is a major part of Illinois and it is in the middle because Springfield is the capitol it is in central IL



2666

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois Citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my Illinois flag, I outlined a white border of Illinois. The northern cardinal represents the Illinois state bird. It's holding a white oak leaf which is the leaf of the state tree for Illinois. "State Sovereignty, National Union" is the Illinois State Motto. The big bluestem represents Illinois' state prairie grass. The shield represents the 1st 13 states. The years 1868 and 1818 represent the year Illinois became a state and the year when the Great Seal was redesigned.



2667

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, IL.. I am 50 years old and I love this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The seal of Illinois is the center of the flag. The image of Abraham Lincoln is because this is where Abraham Lincoln is from. The rest of the text is self explanatory with the name of the state, Illinois, and the date of establishment.





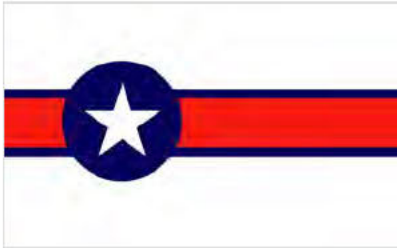
2668

Relationship to Illinois

Please see the information submitted with my prior application.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Please see the information submitted with my prior application.



2669

Relationship to Illinois

I'd like to visit at some point...

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star represents Illinois. The stripe represents coming together. The white is from the current flag and red liberty



2670

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lake Michigan and our State flower

2671

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. I have a love-hate relationship with Illinois but love will outweigh the bad that happens in Illinois and just the United States in general. I've seen the tall expensive buildings to the farmlands with houses each of a mile (or more) away. I still find both aspects beautiful so I'm very honored to be a part of this.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My version of the Illinois flag incorporates elements representing the state's geography, history, and role in the United States through three colors: blue for the state's waterways, green for its vast agricultural lands, and brown for the soil and natural resources. The white bald eagle at the center symbolizes strength and freedom, mirroring the current state seal. The eagle's forward motion reflects progress while honoring Illinois' past, creating a modern yet meaningful flag design.

2672

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in S*o Paulo, Brazil and was raised all over the Midwest but was lucky enough to move to Carbondale, Illinois when I was 12 and this beautiful state has been my home ever since. Now in my late 20's, I am living in Chicago and working as a graphic designer for the City of Chicago's economic development agency. I take great pride in saying that I grew up in Southern Illinois would be extremely proud to say that I designed a flag that represents every part of this great state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Horizontal blue and gold stripes represent both the shores of Lake Michigan to the North and the shores of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers. Gold star represents Illinois position as the 21st state, White inner star represents Scheat, the Illinois Bicentennial star, and the silver star represent the silver dome on the Capital building. The golden grass represents Illinois' nickname, "The Prairie state" and the state grass the Big Bluestem. White pays homage to the current state flag.

2673

Relationship to Illinois

I am an [REDACTED] student at Selmaville Grade School in Salem, Illinois. In my [REDACTED] social studies class, we have been studying the history of Illinois including the history of our flag. Our teacher told us about the flag contest and encouraged each of us to create our own design for a class project. She then gave us the option to enter our designs in the contest. In addition to our Illinois history unit, we will soon be finishing a unit over the Illinois Constitution. - [REDACTED]



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The state bird, a Northern Cardinal, is holding the original banner with the state motto. A cornstalk represents the rural areas and the Illinois capitol building set among more a cityscape for urban Illinois. The urban side is showcased on the left side and the rural areas are showcased on the right. The sun at the top symbolizes a bright future. The American flag shows loyalty to the United States.

2674

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Gurnee, IL, and attend the Illinois Math & Science Academy in Aurora. As someone who has a strong passion for graphic design and technology, my dream came true when Illinois announced a flag redesign. I knew this was my chance to combine my hobby with my love for the state and make a lasting impact. It's exciting to create something that represents the history and future of Illinois, and I'm honored to contribute to a project that could be part of our state's legacy.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

-Redesign blends Illinois history with modern elements. -Shield (from current flag) represents "warriors." (Illinois is an Illini Indian word meaning "men" or "warriors"). -15 stripes = 15 original counties (est. 1818); 21 stars = Illinois as 21st state; 6-point stars (nod to Chicago flag) symbolize transport, labor, commerce, finance, population, health. -Orange = prairie (Illinois nickname), blue = lakes/rivers. Colors have significance across IL: UIUC (flagship univ.), Chicago Bears, etc.

2675

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Robinson Illinois on [REDACTED] and raised in Pinckneyville Illinois. I am a graduate from Pinckneyville Community High School and received my undergraduate degree in Organizational Communications from McKendree University at Lebanon Illinois. Our family has been in Illinois since at least 1868 (Barnett and allied families, 1608-1995). I have relatives throughout the state: McComb, Effingham, Carbondale, Maryville, Marion, Elkhartville and more. This state is my home, at my core.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the 1868 IL Great Seal. The light blue color is from the water in the Great Seal, the dark blue color is from the national coat of arms in the talon of the bald eagle on the Great Seal. The white "rays of light" that extend from the coat of arms are inspired by the rising sun in the Great Seal. Within the coat of arms are 18 stars representing IL founding year, 1818. 14 outer stars are the border of Illinois. 4 inner stars represent north, central, south, and Chicago (top right).

2676

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my entire life. I was raised in the Chicago suburbs and both sides of my family have lived in northern Illinois for generations. I've seen pictures and heard stories from my parents and grandparents as their towns have grown and changed over the decades from rural to suburban. UIUC is my alma mater.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents urban, rural, and agricultural aspects of Illinois. As the top producer of corn and pumpkins, their yellow and orange are reflected here. The shapes are reminiscent of an ear of corn. The green base represents the midwestern plains, with the sun shining over them. The large "I" in the middle is for Illinois. The 3 bars in the middle represent Chicago as the country's 3rd largest city, sandwiched in the middle. The background shapes pull from the Chicago star.

2677

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Robinson Illinois on [REDACTED] and raised in Pinckneyville Illinois. I am a graduate from Pinckneyville Community High School and received my undergraduate degree in Organizational Communications from McKendree University at Lebanon Illinois. Our family has been in Illinois since at least 1868 (Barnett and allied families, 1608-1995). I have relatives throughout the state: McComb, Effingham, Carbondale, Maryville, Marion, Elkhartville and more. This state is my home, at my core.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the 1868 IL Great Seal. The light blue color is from the water in the Great Seal, the dark blue color is from the national coat of arms in the talon of the bald eagle on the Great Seal. The white "rays of light" that extend from the coat of arms are inspired by the rising sun in the Great Seal. Within the coat of arms are 18 stars representing IL founding year, 1818. 14 outer stars are the border of Illinois. 4 inner stars represent north, central, south, and Chicago (top right).

2678

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Robinson Illinois on [REDACTED] and raised in Pinckneyville Illinois. I am a graduate from Pinckneyville Community High School and received my undergraduate degree in Organizational Communications from McKendree University at Lebanon Illinois. Our family has been in Illinois since at least 1868 (Barnett and allied families, 1608-1995). I have relatives throughout the state: McComb, Effingham, Carbondale, Maryville, Marion, Elkhartville and more. This state is my home, at my core.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the 1868 IL Great Seal. The light blue color is from the water in the Great Seal, the dark blue color is from the national coat of arms in the talon of the bald eagle on the Great Seal. The white "rays of light" that extend from the coat of arms are inspired by the rising sun in the Great Seal. Within the coat of arms are 18 stars representing IL founding year, 1818. 14 outer stars are the border of Illinois. 4 inner stars represent north, central, south, and Chicago (top right).



2679

Relationship to Illinois

I've been a lifelong resident of Illinois since birth.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue background representing Lake Michigan. Yellow text and a wheat symbol for the agriculture and deep farming roots across Illinois. The center features the State Capitol building. 1818 for the year Illinois became a state.



2680

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I was born in Waukegan, lived 25 years of my life in Round Lake Park, went to college at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, and now live in Wheeling. I love Illinois and have traveled all over this beautiful state, from Chicago to Carbondale.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I call this flag the Nature Flag. The central flower represents the Common Blue Violet, the state flower of Illinois. This is an approximation of what the flower would look like. It could be refined down the road. The white background represents two state symbols: the state tree, the White Oak, and the state animal, the White-tailed deer. Finally, the two blue stripes represent two of the great waterways that have shaped Illinois: Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River.

2681

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in southern Illinois. I attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where I met my wife and got married in Champaign. We moved away for four years and then moved back to Champaign where we had our son and live today. My family is from here, my roots are from here, I love it here, and would love to fly a new state flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My state flag design is simple - three horizontal stripes that represent three geographic elements of Illinois: Green to represent the southern forests, Yellow to represent the central fields and prairies, and Blue to represent the water, rivers, and lakes of the state. The three stars represent the three state capitals that Illinois has had over its history. The three stars form an arrow/pointer to the right to represent continued progress in the state.

2682

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Normal, Illinois in 1992. I was raised in the small farm town of Heyworth, Illinois, and after graduating from Heyworth High School, attended Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. I moved to Louisiana for 6 years, and although it was an adventure, when it came time to raise a family, my husband and I knew there was no place like home. We brought our girls back to Heyworth in hopes to give them the same love for Illinois that we have.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This simple design incorporates the colors of the nations flag, but specifically focuses on the silhouette shape of Illinois with the year 1818 representing the year Illinois entered the Union.

2683



Relationship to Illinois

Life long resident. Career Illinois public high school teacher nearing retirement.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents the landscape of most of Illinois as well as its agricultural heritage. Thus the band of green. The rising sun is about an optimistic future for all of us.

2684



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in northern Illinois and have spent much of my life living in Boone and Winnebago counties. This state is simply my home and I was very delighted to hear that we were considering changing our flag. I would like to have a flag that better represents our state and finally be something we can take some pride in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a white field marked with 21 yellow oval shapes to resemble a simplified prairie grass foxtail. This is a direct reference to Illinois being the "Prairie State" as well as our state being the 21st admission to the union. The flag has two blue triangles in the corners to represent some of the geography of Illinois. The top right triangle represents Lake Michigan in the northeast. The bottom left triangle represents the Mississippi River that defines the western boarder of the state.

2685

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Normal, Illinois in 1992. I was raised in the small farm town of Heyworth, Illinois, and after graduating from Heyworth High School, attended Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. I moved to Louisiana for 6 years, and although it was an adventure, when it came time to raise a family, my husband and I knew there was no place like home. We brought our girls back to Heyworth in hopes to give them the same love for Illinois that we have.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is broken into 3 colored sections representing the 3 regions of Illinois- Northern, Central, and Southern. The color choices are red to represent the state bird, Cardinal, white to represent the state animal, White Tail Deer, and purple to represent the state flower, Violets. The Chicago skyline with the Willis Tower being reimagined as a corn cob represents the combination of the state's rural and urban contributions.

2686

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Normal, Illinois in 1992. I was raised in the small farm town of Heyworth, Illinois, and after graduating from Heyworth High School, attended Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. I moved to Louisiana for 6 years, and although it was an adventure, when it came time to raise a family, my husband and I knew there was no place like home. We brought our girls back to Heyworth in hopes to give them the same love for Illinois that we have.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is broken into 3 colored sections. The color choices are red to represent the state bird, Cardinal, white to represent the state animal, White Tail Deer, and purple to represent the state flower, Violets. The 3 stars represent the 3 regions of Illinois-Northern, Central, and Southern. The total number of points on the 3 stars is 21 which represents Illinois being the 21st state to enter the Union. The star is a gold color to represent the state grain which is corn.

2687

Relationship to Illinois

I recently moved to Illinois in 2023, but my origins have been in the Midwest. I've always had family in the Chicago region. My grandfather rooted for the Chicago Cubs, and my parents lived in Algonquin for some years. My current goal is to visit all 102 counties in Illinois; I'm currently at 62!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Design 1 of 3. Blue and white stripes represent the rivers and land of our state: Lake Michigan, the Illinois River, and the Mississippi River. The center emblem represents Illinois' place as America's social and commercial crossroads. The red circle contains 21 points, as the 21st state of the Union. Four blue arrows arranged in a cross symbolize the Capitol, the center of Illinois. The geometrics similarly used by native Illini form an "I"; the 1st settlers deserve representation on our flag.

2688

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Well the red white and blue mean that we are part of the United States. And the stars mean that we are part of the United States. And we are all together. And the gold stars and border are farms and corn and I just love this country and this great state of Illinois.



2689

Relationship to Illinois

I recently moved to Illinois in 2023, but my origins have been in the Midwest. I've always had family in the Chicago region. My grandfather rooted for the Chicago Cubs, and my parents lived in Algonquin for some years. My current goal is to visit all 102 counties in Illinois; I'm currently at 62!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to create something that would be different but reminiscent of current symbology. This design is inspired by what Canadian provincial flags did; I took some of the elements from the Illinois coat of arms (the state seal) and expanded those into a flag design. Thus, we have a bald eagle flying over a body of water as the sun rises in a burst behind them. (The sunburst could be adjusted to be more symmetrical.)

2690

Relationship to Illinois

I have visited the state a number of times and very much enjoyed my time there as the state feels like a home away from home being a midwestern state like where I am from. The beauty of the state is surreal and the waters of Lake Michigan look incredible off the Illinois shores.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists of a white background with three blue stripes representing three major rivers that all converge alongside and within the state of Illinois; the three stripes from top to bottom representing the Mississippi, Illinois, and Ohio rivers. In the center of the flag is a four-pointed red star that symbolizes the statehood of Illinois with each point of the star representing the four historical rulers of the land: the Native Americans, the French, the British, and the United States.



2691

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident since birth.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The State Capitol building is featured in the center of the flag. The blue background represents Lake Michigan. The wheat symbolizes Illinois' deep roots in the agricultural field. 1818 is the year Illinois officially became a state,

2692

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow in the flag stands for the prairie state of Illinois and the farming of Illinois it is at the bottom because most of farming in Illinois is in the southern part of Illinois. The blue stands for the waters near Chicago and Chicago itself it is on the top of the flag because Chicago and the waters are in the north. And the star in the middle is from the Chicago flag because Chicago is a major part of Illinois and it is in the middle because Springfield is the capitol it is in central IL

2693

Relationship to Illinois

I recently moved to Illinois in 2023, but my origins have been in the Midwest. I've always had family in the Chicago region. My grandfather rooted for the Chicago Cubs, and my parents lived in Algonquin for some years. My current goal is to visit all 102 counties in Illinois; I'm currently at 62!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Design #3 of 3-I focused on simplicity and relatability. This tricolor of white, golden, and navy blue: white for the bright, snowy skies of a classic Illinois winter, and for the peace and harmony all Illinoisians strive for. Golden represents thousands of acres of agricultural fields, at the heart of our state economy. Navy blue, for our ties to a larger Union, and the lakes and rivers. The blue star in the upper-right quadrant represents the state & its position as a leading force.

2694

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois native currently living in Chicago, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois all but 2 years of my life, and each time I've left, I've come back home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue half represents Illinois' relationship to water--shaped the the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and Lake Michigan, our waterways are key to our identity. The white represents our history as a nod to our current flag. The 21 red stars stand for Illinois being the 21st state and our state motto, State Sovereignty, National Union, in the colors they are on the current flag.



2695

Relationship to Illinois

As a kid, I grew up in Dubuque Iowa, which sits directly across the river from Illinois, so as a kid it was uncommon for me to visit Illinois on road trips and things of the sort. Several years ago though, my family moved to Galena Illinois, making that my new home. Since then, I've fallen in love with the state. From the beautiful scenery, to the historic buildings, Illinois really is something special and I'm so happy to live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

When designing the flag, I wanted to keep elements of the original flag while also putting a new spin on it that highlighted both the farm and city life of Illinois. While sticking to the flat color design of the original, I chose the state flower to border the top and bottom, while replacing the eagle from the original with the state bird. The cityscape in the background features the skyline of Chicago, with a sun peeking out that references the sun design on the original flag.



2696



Relationship to Illinois

I am a life long Illinois resident currently residing in Chicago. I've lived in Illinois for all but 2 years of my life, always coming home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the waters that shape Illinois. The dark blue for Lake Michigan, the light blues for the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. The red outline is for our state motto, State Sovereignty, National Union, and a nod to our current flag. The star in the middle is for our star on the US flag as the 21st state.

2697



Relationship to Illinois

I am a life long Illinois resident currently living in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white background is for the open promise of tomorrow. The blue star is our star on the US flag as the 21st state. The green wreath is a nod to our current flag and the olive branch, but also represents the fertile land that we live on. The red stripe is for our state slogan, State Sovereignty, National Union, as it appears on the current flag. The light blue stripes are for the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and the dark blue stripe is for Lake Michigan.

2698



Relationship to Illinois

resident of Illinois for 40+ years (father), resident of Illinois for entire life (entrant)

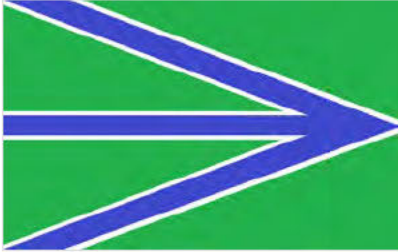
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 13 stars represent that Illinois was the first state to ratify the 13th amendment. The red in those stars signify the loss that Illinois gave in the Civil war. The 2024 signifies the year that the flag was recreated with the 1818 Signifies when Illinois was created as an official state; These were taken from the past flag with the 1818 and the 1868 showing when the state seal was recreated for the first time. In the center I put a symbol to signify the agricultural strength of Illinois.

2699

Relationship to Illinois

I was lucky enough to be born in Illinois, I was raised and educated here, and this is where I'll start a family. I have visited and lived in every corner, every section, of this great state. As a proud Illinoisan, I have spent 20 years designing a new flag and seal that we may all be proud of. Our state is beautiful, with a rich history spanning a millennium, and the Land of Lincoln can hold its head high knowing it stands up for what's right.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is a stylized depiction of the seed head of our State Grass, the Big Bluestem. Green is for the Prairie State and our natural landscape. White is the peace and prosperity for all Illinoisans. Blue is the waterways that have made us a key hub for intracontinental travel and commerce. The three blue branches symbolize the 3 traditional divisions of the state and the 3 groups who have settled this land (Natives, Europeans, Americans). The branches unite as an arrow for forward progress.

2700

Relationship to Illinois

I am a fifth generation Illinois resident, whose family background is rooted in all areas of Illinois; urban, suburban, and rural. I am also an artist who is attending a public Illinois university where I learned the skills to create, build, and show my pride. Illinois has provided me with more possibilities than most other places in the United States, in ways of living, learning, and exploring this world around us.



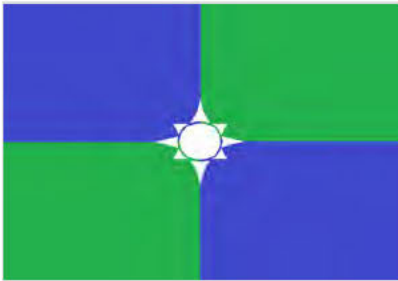
Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my flag I decided to create something easily identifiable as Illinois. I chose the symbols: Abraham Lincoln, as well as the iconic shape of our state. I also added twenty-one stars to symbolize Illinois as the 21st state in the United States. The word Illinois is in 'Plantagenet Cherokee' to represent the Cherokee Indians that traveled here during the Trail of Tears. The colors are 'Old Glory Red,' 'Old Glory Blue,' and black. I also included 1818 as the year Illinois became a state.

2701

Relationship to Illinois

I was lucky enough to be born in Illinois, I was raised and educated here, and this is where I'll start a family. I have visited and lived in every corner, every section, of this great state. As a proud Illinoisan, I have spent 20 years designing a new flag and seal that we may all be proud of. Our state is beautiful, with a rich history spanning a millennium, and the Land of Lincoln can hold its head high knowing it stands up for what's right.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Modeled after the regimental flags of New France, the first flags to fly over Illinois. Green is for The Prairie State and our natural landscape; white for peace and prosperity for all Illinoisans; and blue for the waterways that made Illinois a key hub. The sun/compass rose represents our bright presence; our position as a North American hub; the two major expeditions to map North America significantly feature Illinois in their routes; and ancient Cahokia, the first great polity in Illinois.

2702

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Bloomington, Illinois and have never lived in a different state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The twenty-one stars on the flag represent Illinois' status as the twenty-first state in the United States. The large central star representing Illinois itself. The outer-most ten stars on the left and right are meant to resemble olive branches. The purple color is based off the Blue Violet, the state flower, while the white is a reference to the original flag of Illinois.



2703

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois for college nearly 10 years ago, and have stayed to take in the natural beauty, the connections I've made, the educational opportunities, and the vibrant culture of the city. I am a resident of Chicago and I plan to stay here for many more years to come.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features the white-tailed buck, Illinois's state animal and a symbol of spring and peace in nature. The deer is raising one foreleg to take a step forward. This represents the progression of the state of Illinois in industry and culture, always ready to take the next step forward. This commitment to innovation is paralleled in the direction of the flag's colorful corners - forward and upward. The colors represent the Mississippi River to our west, the verdant prairies to our east.

2704

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for most of my life * I migrated when I was very little and grew up here and appreciate the stability and resources I was able to have through our school and library systems. Although I live in the northwest suburbs of Chicago and have not seen the entire state, I have grown to really love my local forest preserves and our prairies, gentle hills and farming landscapes a lot.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag depicts our state mammal, the white-tailed deer. There is a star in the distance representing Chicago * an influential city in our state. The split colors of a dark blue and golden yellow are reminiscent of farmland that is a large part of our economy but also a prairie that is the natural landscape of our state and where many people and deer live. This flag aims to represent the people and natural of Illinois that are hardy and move forward over soil and under the stars.

2705

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow in the flag stands for the prairie state of Illinois and the farming of Illinois it is at the bottom because most of farming in Illinois is in the southern part of Illinois. The blue stands for the waters near Chicago and Chicago itself it is on the top of the flag because Chicago and the waters are in the north. And the star in the middle is from the Chicago flag because Chicago is a major part of Illinois and it is in the middle because Springfield is the capitol it is in central IL

2706

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois for college nearly 10 years ago, and have stayed to take in the natural beauty, the connections I've made, the educational opportunities, and the vibrant culture of the city. I am a resident of Chicago and I plan to stay here for many more years to come.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag follows the path of the Illinois River, once traced by French settlers. The river is surrounded by prairies basking in the morning glow, represented by gold. Five stars dot the prairies, each star representing one of the five largest tribes of the Illinois Confederation and their approximate locations in relation to the river.

2707

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago and have moved into the City of Chicago for adult life working to keep the waterways clean. Illinois is wonderful state that is rich in culture and history. I would not want to live anywhere else.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

3'x5' Flag
Mississippi River 10" wide from left edge
Blue Stripe. Ohio River 6" tall, bottom edge. Blue stripe. Illinois River & canals. From lower left to upper right corner. Diagonal Blue Stripe. Chicago skyscrapers. 10" wide x 12" tall, Black Rectangle, with 2" wide x 6" tall pair of black rectangles for radio and TV antennas
Monks Mound 10 wide top, 12" wide bottom, 6" tall Green Trapezoid between Chicago & Ohio River
Starved Rock. 8" green square, centered bisected 2" wide waterfall

2708

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois for college nearly 10 years ago, and have stayed to take in the natural beauty, the connections I've made, the educational opportunities, and the vibrant culture of the city. I am a resident of Chicago and I plan to stay here for many more years to come.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag uses a white background to connect it with the white design now displaced. It features the unique shape of Illinois on the right, a bright and lively green to represent our state's lovely prairies. On the left, the twelve stars represent the twelve known tribes in the Illinois Confederation, with the five largest stars representing the largest tribes.

2709

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago and have moved into the City of Chicago for adult life working to keep the waterways clean. Illinois is wonderful state that is rich in culture and history. I would not want to live anywhere else.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

3'x5'Springfield Star centerMississippi River 10" wide from left Blue Stripe.Ohio River 6" tall, bottom. Blue stripe.Illinois River & canals. From lower left to upper right corner. Diagonal Blue Stripe. Chicago skyscrapers. 10" wide x 12" tall, Black Rectangle, with 2" wide x 6" tall pair of black rectangles for radio & TV antennasMonks Mound 10 wide top, 12" wide bottom, 6" tall Green Trapezoid between Chicago & Ohio RiverStarved Rock. 8" green square, center bisected 2" wide waterfall

2710

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago and have moved into the City of Chicago for adult life working to keep the waterways clean. Illinois is wonderful state that is rich in culture and history. I would not want to live anywhere else.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

3'x5'Springfield Seal centerMississippi River 10" wide from left Blue Stripe.Ohio River 6" tall, bottom. Blue stripe.Illinois River & canals. From lower left to upper right corner. Diagonal Blue Stripe. Chicago skyscrapers. 10" wide x 12" tall, Black Rectangle, with 2" wide x 6" tall pair of black rectangles for radio & TV antennasMonks Mound 10 wide top, 12" wide bottom, 6" tall Green Trapezoid between Chicago & Ohio RiverStarved Rock. 8" green square, center bisected 2" wide waterfall

2711

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for most of my life * I migrated when I was very little and grew up here and appreciate the stability and resources I was able to have through our school and library systems. Although I live in the northwest suburbs of Chicago and have not seen the entire state, I have grown to really love my local forest preserves and our prairies, gentle hills and farming landscapes a lot.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A variation of my other submission: a white-tailed deer * our state mammal * running forward. A distant but prominent star representing Chicago is in the top right corner; the bright blue and yellow split color design resembles a prairie or farmland that historically and/or currently is our state's landscape. Deer has historically been an important resource for indigenous people and is a common but nonetheless beautiful and successful animal that I think well represents people who live here.

2712

Relationship to Illinois

I have little personal relationship to Illinois other than a single (frigid) layover in O'Hare in February 2010. I am simply an American who loves art, history, and flags.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chevron = John Deere's steel plow, which revolutionized Midwestern farming. Red 24-dot Circle mimics the original Cahokia red cedar woodhenge. Fleurs-de-lis and central dots form ermine-cross for earliest explorers: Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet. Dot circle and ermine-cross mimic sacred indigenous Mississippian cross-in-circle motif. Gold = agricultural history & prosperity of State and Chicago. Black = fertile soil and history of coal and oil. Lincoln Green = prairies and Abraham Lincoln.



2713

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home state, I moved here when I was very young, before I can even remember, and no other place has made me feel at home like Illinois has. For me personally this state represents progress, moving forward and leading the country and the world in the right direction. I want it to continue to do so in the future, and I want others to be as proud as I am of our state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white triangle symbolizes a train, while the orange a field, and the blue the sky. It's essentially a perspective drawing of a train going into the distance. A more in depth explanation of the colors: Orange: Represents various types of agriculture as well as the vast open fields and the warmth of the people. Blue: The limitless potential, the diversity of the people. White: The industrial and commercial strength as well as the state as a transportation hub for ground, water, and air.

2714

Relationship to Illinois

I have little personal relationship to Illinois other than a single (frigid) layover in O'Hare in February 2010. I am simply an American who loves art, history, and flags.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chevron = John Deere's steel plow, which revolutionized Midwestern farming. Red 24-dot Circle mimics original Cahokia cedar woodhenge. Fleurs-de-lis and central dots form ermine-cross for earliest explorers: Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet. Dot circle and ermine-cross mimic sacred Mississippian cross-in-circle motif. Gold = agricultural history & prosperity of State and Chicago. Black = fertile soil and history of coal and oil. Lt. Blue from Chicago flag for State's vital lakes and rivers.

2715

Relationship to Illinois

I have little personal relationship to Illinois other than a single (frigid) layover in O'Hare in February 2010. I am simply an American who loves art, history, and flags.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chevron = John Deere's steel plow, which revolutionized Midwestern farming. Red 24-dot Circle mimics original Cahokia cedar woodhenge. Fleurs-de-lis and central dots form ermine-cross for earliest explorers: Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet. Dot circle and ermine-cross mimic sacred Mississippian cross-in-circle motif. Gold = agricultural history & prosperity of State and Chicago. Black = fertile soil and southern IL coal and oil. White as reference to current flag.

2716

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 2014 to attend college at Loyola University Chicago, and have lived in Chicago since. I didn't know anyone in Illinois prior to moving, but Illinois is special to me because of the relationships I've been able to build during my time here. I've made close friends because I moved here, and was even able to find my partner because I stayed long enough to find her. I've been to several state parks throughout Illinois and also even adopted my two cats here, Nickie and Onyx.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bars and gold accents represent the Mississippi river and lake Michigan which border Illinois, as well as Illinois' prairies. The flag's two 6 pointed stars represent the 12 tribes of the Illiniwek, which Illinois is named after. The stars are red to represent the suffering and displacement of the Illiniwek. The flag also includes the cardinal, which is Illinois' state bird. The cardinal represents positivity and hope, and is a powerful and unifying symbol for Illinois.

2717

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of the city of Chicago for 5 years. Moved to Chicago in 2019 for University. Studied history and political science and now work as a paralegal in a civil rights group in Chicago. I love history especially the history of Chicago and Illinois, all parts included. I loved doing research on the history of the state and its topography to influence this flag design! Thank you for your time.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have included a summary of the meaning in my picture but I left my consideration for the different flags of the world because of the different communities and ethnicities that comprise the population of Illinois. In particular the color choices and the subsequent of arrangement of those colors are meant to pay homage to the colors and flags important to African-Americans, Italian-Americans, German-Americans, Polish-Americans, Latine-Americans, and Asia-Americans. I also included two options.

2718

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 2014 to attend college at Loyola University Chicago, and have lived in Chicago since. I didn't know anyone in Illinois prior to moving, but Illinois is special to me because of the relationships I've been able to build during my time here. I've made close friends because I moved here, and was even able to find my partner because I stayed long enough to find her. I've been to several state parks throughout Illinois and also even adopted my two cats here, Nickie and Onyx.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bars represent the Mississippi river and lake Michigan which border Illinois. The flag's 12 6 pointed stars represent the 12 tribes of the Illiniwek, which Illinois is named after. The 6 pointed stars reference Chicago's 6 pointed stars. The stars are red to represent the suffering and displacement of the Illiniwek. The flag also includes the cardinal, which is Illinois' state bird. The cardinal represents positivity and hope, and is a powerful and unifying symbol for Illinois.

2719

Relationship to Illinois

I've spent my entire life in Illinois, growing up in Orland Park and experiencing city life in Chicago before settling back in the suburbs. My connection to the state runs deep*Illinois has shaped who I am. I appreciate the diversity of its landscapes and communities, from urban environments to rural prairies. This state is home, and I take great pride in its rich history and contributions to the nation.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A navy triangle with 20 white stars and 1 gold star represents Illinois as the 21st state. Seven alternating dark and light yellow stripes symbolize our agricultural heritage and identity as the Prairie State. My design draws from the U.S. flag's stars and stripes, while maintaining its own distinct look. This design combines Illinois' history and agriculture with familiar American elements, ensuring both recognition and individuality.

2720

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 2014 to attend college at Loyola University Chicago, and have lived in Chicago since. I didn't know anyone in Illinois prior to moving, but Illinois is special to me because of the relationships I've been able to build during my time here. I've made close friends because I moved here, and was even able to find my partner because I stayed long enough to find her. I've been to several state parks throughout Illinois and also even adopted my two cats here, Nickie and Onyx.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bars and gold accents represent the Mississippi river and lake Michigan which border Illinois, as well as Illinois' prairies. The flag's 12 6 pointed stars represent the 12 tribes of the Illiniwek, which Illinois is named after. The stars are red to represent the suffering and displacement of the Illiniwek. The flag also includes the cardinal, which is Illinois' state bird. The cardinal represents positivity and hope, and is a powerful and unifying symbol for Illinois.

2721

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home state, I moved here when I was very young, before I can even remember, and no other place has made me feel at home like Illinois has. For me personally this state represents progress, moving forward and leading the country and the world in the right direction. I want it to continue to do so in the future, and I want others to be as proud as I am of our state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A train going into the distance. The orange represents all agricultural sectors, the open fields and prairies, as well as the warmth of the people. The blue represents the limitless possibilities for the future of the state as well as the diversity. In this version it also represents the Mississippi river on the western border. The white represents the industrial and economic power of the state, as well as IL being a major transportation hub for ground, water, and air.

2722

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home state, I moved here when I was very young, before I can even remember, and no other place has made me feel at home like Illinois has. For me personally this state represents progress, moving forward and leading the country and the world in the right direction. I want it to continue to do so in the future, and I want others to be as proud as I am of our state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A train going into the distance, which is a symbol for progress and of the state's connections. The orange represents all agricultural sectors, the open fields and prairies, as well as the warmth of the people. The blue represents the limitless possibilities for the future of the state as well as the diversity. The white represents the industrial and economic power of the state, as well as IL being a major transportation hub for ground, water, and air.

2723

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow in the flag stands for the prairie state of Illinois and the farming of Illinois it is at the bottom because most of farming in Illinois is in the southern part of Illinois. The blue stands for the waters near Chicago and Chicago itself it is on the top of the flag because Chicago and the waters are in the north. And the star in the middle is from the Chicago flag because Chicago is a major part of Illinois and it is in the middle because Springfield is the capitol it is in central IL

2724

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, and I live in the Chicago suburb of Mount Prospect.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag uses a blue cross to represent both the influence of Christianity on the state and the diverse faiths Illinois has ranging from the Catholics to the Mormons. The blue color represents the Mississippi river, while the gold background represents the wealth of the state and the wheat its farmers grow to feed it. The twenty-one stars represent Illinois's status as the 21st state, while the larger star in the upper left represents Illinois's statehood.

2725

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident of 24 years and have lived in various areas of central Illinois and the suburbs. I am now a proud resident of West Chicago where history and progress meet and I am excited to make progress in our state with a new flag!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green in my flag represents agriculture, one of our largest industries that is in all areas of our state. The blue in the top right shows Lake Michigan which is a great attraction in our state. The white line symbolizes our transportation infrastructure that connects residents from Alton to Alsip. The star shape and circle honor the rotunda of our State Capitol as the central point in our state. I love Minnesota's new simple flag with a lot of meaning and designed this flag to do the same.



2726

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, IL, where I have been a lifelong resident. Although I have visited many other cities and states, my heart and home remain for and in Illinois. Since 2017, I have been teaching English at a Chicago high school. While I have many goals as a language arts teacher, one of the most important is to foster in my students the humanity, curiosity, and civic responsibility that will help create a brighter future for our city and our state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is the spirit of Illinois: celebrating both the individual and the collective. The top, bottom, and middle stripes outline IL while the colors match the US flag. The L's vertical line is our shared western border of the Mississippi, and the horizontal line is anyone's river of meaning: Illinois, Wabash, etc. The three six-pointed stars allude to Chicago and depict a skyscraper within the vertical line; at the same time, our year of statehood shines through in the 18(18) overall points.



2727

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago for all my life. I still come back from college to see my family who still live in Illinois. I also am registered to vote as an Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors: Dark blue = Springfield, Light blue = flag of Chicago. Star: Represents Chicago and Illinois, Red represents a Cardinal. Points are the founding of Fort Dearborn, Illinois getting statehood, the founding of Springfield, Abraham Lincoln, world's fair, and native Americans. Wave pattern: left is the Mississippi and Illinois River and the wave on the right is Lake Michigan and the Chicago River. The wheat represents a major export and importance to agriculture in the country.



2728

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and grew up and lived in Illinois my whole life but I use when I write it

Explain the meaning behind your flag

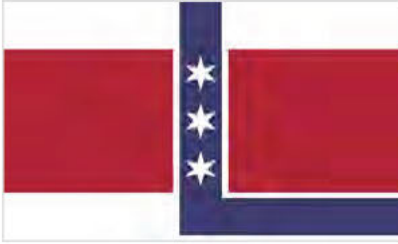
My Flag is Eagle soared up the American Flag with Star banner Shield and Brighting Sun because which represents state rich prairie is Bald eagle; represents the United States because Chief Petty Officer Bruce McDaniel petitioned to have the name of the state added to the flag.



2729

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, IL, where I have been a lifelong resident. Although I have visited many other cities and states, my heart and home remain for and in Illinois. Since 2017, I have been teaching English at a Chicago high school. While I have many goals as a language arts teacher, one of the most important is to foster in my students the humanity, curiosity, and civic responsibility that will help create a brighter future for our city and our state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is the spirit of Illinois: celebrating both the individual and the collective. The top, bottom, and middle stripes outline IL while the colors match the US flag. The L's vertical line is our shared western border of the Mississippi, and the horizontal line is anyone's river of meaning: Illinois, Wabash, etc. The three six-pointed stars allude to Chicago and depict a skyscraper within the vertical line; at the same time, our year of statehood shines through in the 18(18) overall points.

2730

Relationship to Illinois

I, Apostolos (who is submitting on behalf of my son), was born, raised, and lived in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

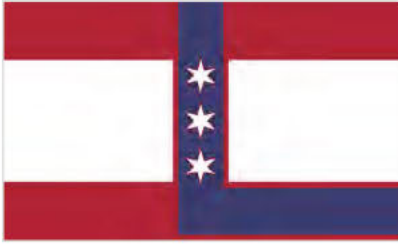
-blue on top: Lake Michigan, which borders north of IL-skyscraper: architecture-star: union with USA, forms "i" shape with skyscraper-gray shapes form an axe for Lincoln, the rail-splitter-axe has 8 soundwaves, representing Illinois' name: from a native term meaning "speak in the regular way". 8 waves = 8 letters in Illinois.- orange: earthen mounds from ancient native city of Cahokia, also pumpkins, IL top US producer-orange leaf shapes: agriculture, 18 of them for statehood date of 1818



2731

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, IL, where I have been a lifelong resident. Although I have visited many other cities and states, my heart and home remain for and in Illinois. Since 2017, I have been teaching English at a Chicago high school. While I have many goals as a language arts teacher, one of the most important is to foster in my students the humanity, curiosity, and civic responsibility that will help create a brighter future for our city and our state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is the spirit of Illinois: celebrating both the individual and the collective. The top, bottom, and middle stripes outline IL while the colors match the US flag. The L's vertical line is our shared western border of the Mississippi, and the horizontal line is anyone's river of meaning: Illinois, Wabash, etc. The three six-pointed stars allude to Chicago and depict a skyscraper within the vertical line; at the same time, our year of statehood shines through in the 18(18) overall points.

2732

Relationship to Illinois

I, Apostolos (who is submitting on behalf of my son), was born, raised, and lived in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

-blue on top: Lake Michigan, which borders north of IL-gray represents architecture such as skyscrapers-white color and gray border for aesthetic purposes-gray and white shapes together form an axe for Lincoln, the rail-splitter-orange: earthen mounds from ancient native city of Cahokia, also pumpkins, which Illinois produces more of than any other state. The orange then may represent agriculture as a whole



2733

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Andrew Cook, and I am a public librarian and lifelong Illinois resident. My life's journey has taken me all across this great state: from Downers Grove and Rockford to Galesburg, Champaign, and Chicago, it is my great honor to tender this submission for the next state flag of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The attached flag depicts a prairie scene. Illinois's prairie is a natural wonder that illustrates our shared history and hope for a harmonious future. The "Prairie Stars" flag depicts counterposed fields of goldenrod and wheat divided by prairie fire. The wheat field is dotted by green stars representing forests, indicating a coexistence of nature and agriculture. Cardinal red is used to depict prairie fire, hearkening to Illinois's beloved state bird.

2734

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Gurnee, IL, and attend the Illinois Math & Science Academy in Aurora. As someone who has a strong passion for graphic design and technology, my dream came true when Illinois announced a flag redesign. I knew this was my chance to combine my hobby with my love for the state and make a lasting impact. It's exciting to create something that represents the history and future of Illinois, and I'm honored to contribute to a project that could be part of our state's legacy.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

-Redesign blends Illinois history with modern elements. -Shield (from current flag) represents "warriors." (Illinois is an Illini Indian word meaning "men" or "warriors"). -15 stripes = 15 original counties (est. 1818); 21 stars = Illinois as 21st state; 6-point stars (nod to Chicago flag) symbolize transport, labor, commerce, finance, population, health. -Orange = prairie (Illinois nickname), blue = lakes/rivers. Colors have significance across IL: UIUC (flagship univ.), Chicago Bears, etc.

2735

Relationship to Illinois

I am [REDACTED]. I am [REDACTED] years old. I am a student at Ridgewood Highschool in Norridge Illinois. I am submitting fit flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Lee Ann Rutherford. I live in [REDACTED], and I have lived here for 6 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has two blue stripes and one white one, similar to the Chicago flag. I began a poll where I would name a state and my audience would then say the first thing that comes to mind. It was a common occurrence that my audience would name the more known cities of that state*Ex.Illinois & Chicago. I also added a star, again, similar to the Chicago flag, that represents the capital of Illinois which is Springfield. The I & L represents the states abbreviated name.



2736

Relationship to Illinois

I, Apostolos (who is submitting on behalf of my son), was born, raised, and lived in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

-blue on top: Lake Michigan, which borders north of IL-gray represents architecture such as skyscrapers-gray shapes form an axe for Lincoln, the rail-splitter-white lines flow through the flag and connect the elements, representing Illinois' interconnectivity to the US, both culturally and through its extensive transportation network-orange: earthen mounds from ancient native city of Cahokia, also pumpkins, IL top US producer, and agriculture as a whole



2737

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, born and raised, and currently residing in the western suburbs of Kane County.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is the "Land of Lincoln" and he features prominently in this design, gracing the hoist of the flag in the foreground as the sun rises above the horizon in the background. 20 red stars representing early states arc off the sun, with a larger 21st star in the top right marking Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union. Lincoln charted a nobler path forward for the country as president and this flag would help ensure he remains an inspiration to the people of our state and nation.



2738

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here and have lived here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I thought blue and white would be an appealing mix of colors. The blue represents the Mississippi River, the Fleur-de-lis represents France colonizing the region and the stars represent Illinois being a member of the Union.



2739

Relationship to Illinois

Dear members of the Illinois Flag Commission and Secretary of State staff, my name is Andrew Cook, and I am a public librarian and lifelong Illinois resident. My life's journey has taken me all across this great state: from Downers Grove and Rockford to Galesburg, Champaign, and Chicago, it is my great honor to tender these submissions for the next state flag of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois's prairie is a natural wonder that illustrates our shared history and hope for a harmonious future. The "Prairie Cutout" flag evokes two scenes using wheat, mud red, and forest green. The first, a nature scene with vast prairies, muddy rivers and forests, and the other, a pastiche of agricultural assets*fields of wheat and soy, our famed black soil, and timber. When flown vertically or hung from a pole, the Prairie Cutout suggests the shape of Illinois.

2740

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in southern Illinois. I was born and raised in Madison County. I graduated from SIUE, and I now live in St. Clair County. I spent much of my childhood camping and driving around Illinois. So, I have long had a connection with the land and waters of Illinois. I feel comfortable and connected to her cities as well as her farm fields, her woodlands, her waters, and her prairies. But, I've long felt that Illinois deserves a better flag, and I'm excited that we are choosing a new one.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue field on the left side represents the Mississippi river. The right side of this narrow field takes the shape of the western border of Illinois. The two diagonal lines represent the Illinois and Kaskaskia rivers, and follow similar paths as the rivers on a map. The green field at the bottom right side represents the prairies of the Prairie State. The sun rising over the prairie is styled like the sun on the State Seal. The sun has 21 rays, representing Illinois as the 21st State.

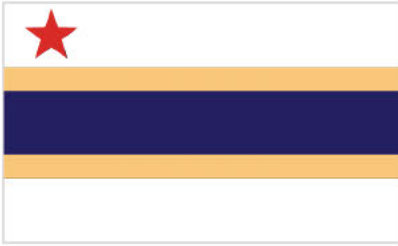
2741

Relationship to Illinois

Born, raised educated in the state. Maybe left the state around 20 times total. One of my bigger fears is needed to leave for work.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Dark blue horizontal stripe with a light orange border and a five pointed star in the top left. white for its simplicity, current flag. blue for the illinois river and its industry. orange for the agriculture surrounding the river (corn, pumpkins, soy). a unique color to help distinguish. red star for the individual.



2742

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, born and raised, and currently residing in the western suburbs of Kane County.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design strives to represent all regions of Illinois with a simple and clean navy/green/gold repetition. Navy to represent our state's defining bodies of water in Lake Michigan, the Ohio River, and the Mississippi River. Green to represent our populous cities and suburbs, and gold to represent our rural and agricultural regions. A portrait of President Lincoln, bound in a five-point star representing a single state, evokes the "Land of Lincoln" motto to tie the design to Illinois.



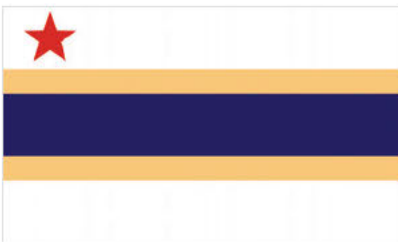
2743

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

Dark blue horizontal stripe with a light orange border and a five pointed star in the top left. white for its simplicity, current flag. blue for the illinois river and its industry. orange for the agriculture surrounding the river (corn, pumpkins, soy). a unique color to help distinguish. red star for the individual.



2744

Relationship to Illinois

Dear members of the Illinois Flag Commission and Secretary of State staff, my name is Andrew Cook, and I am a public librarian and lifelong Illinois resident. My life's journey has taken me all across this great state: from Downers Grove and Rockford to Galesburg, Champaign, and Chicago, it is my great honor to tender these submissions for the next state flag of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois's prairie is a natural wonder that illustrates our shared history and hope for a harmonious future. Speaking to the steady march of history, the "Prairie Sunset" flag depicts a prairie under a dramatic sunset of red and purple, with a single falling star. To signify the progress of time, the horizon is tilted on an axis. A sunset inspires us to reflect on the day's labors and look ahead to tomorrow, and from the heartland to the city that works, Illinoisans get the job done.



2745

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a bird and there's music and florals that surrounds it.

2746

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in southern Illinois. I was born and raised in Madison County. I graduated from SIUE, and I now live in St. Clair County. I spent much of my childhood camping and driving around Illinois. So, I have long had a connection with the land and waters of Illinois. I feel comfortable and connected to her cities as well as her farm fields, her woodlands, her waters, and her prairies. But, I've long felt that Illinois deserves a better flag, and I'm excited that we are choosing a new one.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue field on the left side represents the Mississippi river. The right side of this narrow field takes the shape of the western border of Illinois. The two diagonal lines represent the Illinois and Kaskaskia rivers, and follow similar paths as the rivers on a map. The green field on the right side represents the prairies of the Prairie State. The sun over the prairie is styled like the sun on the State Seal. The sun has 21 rays, representing Illinois as the 21st State.

2747

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Gurnee, IL, and attend the Illinois Math & Science Academy in Aurora. As someone who has a strong passion for graphic design and technology, my dream came true when Illinois announced a flag redesign. I knew this was my chance to combine my hobby with my love for the state and make a lasting impact. It's exciting to create something that represents the history and future of Illinois, and I'm honored to contribute to a project that could be part of our state's legacy.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

-Redesign blends Illinois history with modern elements. -Shield (from current flag) represents "warriors." (Illinois is an Illini Indian word meaning "men" or "warriors"). -15 stripes = 15 original counties (est. 1818); 21 stars = Illinois as 21st state; 6-point stars (nod to Chicago flag) symbolize transport, labor, commerce, finance, population, health. -Orange = prairie (Illinois nickname), blue = lakes/ivers. Colors have significance across IL: UIUC (flagship univ.), Chicago Bears, etc.

2748

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. It is my home and is where I grew up.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is the first state to ratify the 13th amendment to abolish slavery, so there are 13 stars. The green grain leaves represent Illinois prominent forests, crops and agriculture. The monarch butterfly is the state insect. The butterfly also symbolizes a connection to nature, hope, freedom, and personal growth. With the 13 stars it shows Illinois willingness to change for a better and kinder future for its people. Blue and orange colors also reference University of Illinois and Chicago Bears



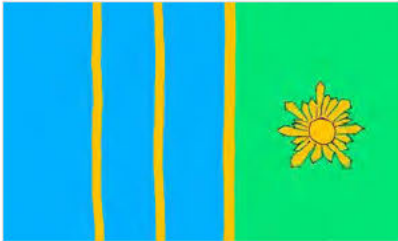
2749

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in southern Illinois. I was born and raised in Madison County. I graduated from SIUE, and I now live in St. Clair County. I spent much of my childhood camping and driving around Illinois. So, I have long had a connection with the land and waters of Illinois. I feel comfortable and connected to her cities as well as her farm fields, her woodlands, her waters, and her prairies. But, I've long felt that Illinois deserves a better flag, and I'm excited that we are choosing a new one.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three blue vertical lines represent the Mississippi, the Illinois, and Kaskaskia rivers: the three longest and largest rivers of Illinois. The green field on the right side represents the prairies of the Prairie State. The gold sun over the prairie is styled like the sun on the State Seal. The sun has 21 rays, representing Illinois as the 21st State.



2750

Relationship to Illinois

Alex Behle's great-great-great-grandfather was a minister who changed his calling and became a physician after immigrating to Moro, IL, in the 1800s. His son too cared for Illinoisans by practicing Obstetrics at Cook County Hospital. Generations later, the Behle's still call Illinois home, where Alex, a Chicago Public Schools graduate, is an aide to one of the state's US Senators. Alex, who co-designed with Noah Wills, enjoys road trips across the state and cheering for the Chicago Bears.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design is angled at 21 degrees, symbolizing the 21st state and indicating upward potential. Honoring the past, the design incorporates a blue banner and white star, inspired by the 1918 centennial flag, now with 6 points -1 for each bordering state. Reflecting the present, the design is balanced by 2 red banners, each illustrating half the state's motto: "State Sovereignty, National Union." Envisioning the future, the design maintains a white background, signifying unlimited possibilities.

2751

Relationship to Illinois

I am [REDACTED]. I am 17 years old. I am a student at Ridgewood High School in Norridge, Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my Civics class. My Civics teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put a monarch butterfly on a violet flower, as these are the state insect and flower. I think Illinois has very beautiful natural areas and should be more recognized for nature. I also included the color blue which is also said to be related to the state color.

2752

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life (40 years). I grew up in Naperville and then moved to Chicago where I lived for about 18 years before moving to Des Plaines.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag uses a silhouette design of the state of Illinois as the focal point. I always felt Illinois had a distinct outline. 21 stars circle the state to symbolize it being the 21st state to enter the Union. Additionally, I used the circular design to symbolize Illinois being a kind of center of the country, whether it is geographically or from Chicago serving as a hub for train and air traffic. Finally, the blue edges represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan which flank the state.



2753

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I was born and raised in Chicago, I am currently attending college in DeKalb. I am a proud Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is very much inspired by Wallace Rice's centennial design. In my suggested configuration, the flag boasts 21 stars. 20 stars for the previous states admitted to the Union, with the 21st and largest star representing Illinois itself, as the 21st state. 6 points on this large star represent the state's largest city, Chicago. The two rows of stars represent the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, and the middle blue bar represents Lake Michigan. This leaves white to stand for peace.



2754

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. It is my home and is where I grew up.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is the first state to ratify the 13th amendment to abolish slavery, there are 13 stars. The cardinal is the state bird. A cardinal represents strength, vitality, devotion, and strong familial bonds, like our hardworking people. Blue represents the Great lake that passes through. Yellow represents Illinois crops and agriculture. The cardinal holds oak leaves, which represent our forests. The white oak tree is the state tree. Oak symbolize strength, fertility, resilience, and wisdom.



2755

Relationship to Illinois

Alex Behle's great-great-great-grandfather was a minister who changed his calling and became a physician after immigrating to Moro, IL, in the 1800s. His son too cared for Illinoisans by practicing Obstetrics at Cook County Hospital. Generations later, the Behle's still call Illinois home, where Alex, a Chicago Public Schools graduate, is an aide to one of the state's US Senators. Alex, who co-designed with Noah Wills, enjoys road trips across the state and cheering for the Chicago Bears.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design's blue area, inspired by the 1918 centennial flag, occupies 21% of the flag's total area, celebrating IL as the 21st state. The design's golden field, representing IL as the "Prairie State," pays tribute to the state's rich agrarian roots. The design's white curve broadly charts IL's western boundary, the Mississippi River, while the white star points outward to all 6 bordering states using an iconic Chicago symbol, all highlighting the importance IL's natural and cultural history.



2756

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. It is my home and is where I grew up.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is the first state to ratify the 13th amendment to abolish slavery, there are 13 stars. The large star is Illinois statehood. This flag represents Illinois landscape. It's big on agriculture and has many crops and farmland throughout. Blue is the sky, green is its grassy plains and forests. The sun has a wreath of grains and as it's rays expand into the green it looks like our lined crops. The sun represents hope, renewal, life, and justice. The wreath represents harvests and unity



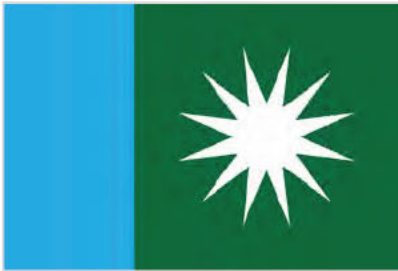
2757

Relationship to Illinois

I'm currently a graduate student at the University of Illinois Chicago. My mom grew up in Kankakee, and I have family in Peoria. I was raised in Salt Lake City, Utah, but I've lived in Chicago since May 2019.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe represents the rivers and lakes that make up Illinois' borders and flow through it, weaving the state's people together. The green square signifies a rich plot of Prairie State land. The white star alludes to the sun on Illinois' current flag. The star's 12 points represent the 12 native tribes of the Illinois Confederation, pointing outwards towards the future.



2758

Relationship to Illinois

A student and permanent resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois represents a beautiful landscapes and a land thatProsper alongside with nature. As the state tree, the white oak stands as a symbol of the Prairie State's strength, endurance, and deep connection to the land. While the white oak represents Illinois' towering strength, a more delicate plant captures the state's gentle beauty at ground level.



2759

Relationship to Illinois

Alex Behle's great-great-great-grandfather was a minister who changed his calling and became a physician after immigrating to Moro, IL, in the 1800s. His son too cared for Illinoisans by practicing Obstetrics at Cook County Hospital. Generations later, the Behle's still call Illinois home, where Alex, a Chicago Public Schools graduate, is an aide to one of the state's US Senators. Alex, who co-designed with Noah Wills, enjoys road trips across the state and cheering for the Chicago Bears.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design is reminiscent of the French Tricolor, a tribute to IL's French settlers, using blue, inspired by the 1918 centennial flag, and gold, representing IL as the "Prairie State." The left outline broadly maps IL's western boundary, while the right outline reveals Abraham Lincoln's profile, highlighting the "Land of Lincoln." Together, these illustrate the state's motto "State Sovereignty, National Union." The star, inspired by Chicago and IL's 6 bordering states, is held in the balance.

2760

Relationship to Illinois

I'm currently a graduate student at the University of Illinois Chicago. My mom grew up in Kankakee, and I have family in Peoria. I was raised in Salt Lake City, Utah, but I've lived in Chicago since May 2019.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The diagonal blue stipe symbolizes one of Illinois' many lakes and rivers. The two green triangles represent Illinois's prairies and forests, connected by the water. Between their reflection, three four-pointed white stars represent the people of Illinois, peace, and prosperity.



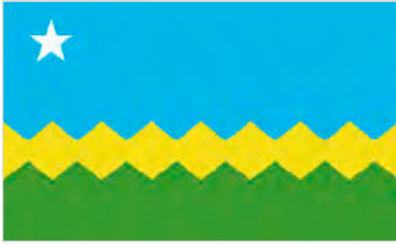
2761

Relationship to Illinois

I am an 11 year old boy, and my father was born and raised in Illinois. I return to Illinois almost every summer to visit my family. These designs reflect my impressions of my father's home state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design represents the Illinois landscape, with a pale blue prairie sky and an abstract agricultural landscape, alluding to the cornfields of Illinois. The single star in the top left corner represents Illinois native Abraham Lincoln and his defense of the union in the civil war.



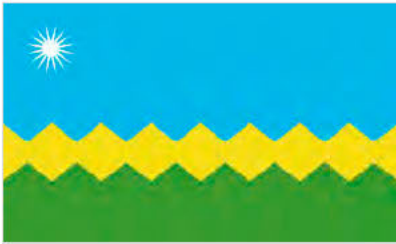
2762

Relationship to Illinois

I am an 11 year old boy, and my father was born and raised in Illinois. I return to Illinois almost every summer to visit my family. These designs reflect my impressions of my father's home state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design represents the Illinois landscape, with a pale blue prairie sky and an abstract agricultural landscape, alluding to the cornfields of Illinois. The single 16-pointed star in the top left corner represents Illinois native Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, and his defense of the union in the civil war. When viewed against the background of the blue sky, this star also resembles a sun shining over the agricultural landscape.



2763

Relationship to Illinois

I am an 11 year old boy, and my father was born and raised in Illinois. I return to Illinois almost every summer to visit my family. These designs reflect my impressions of my father's home state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design represents the Illinois landscape, with a blue prairie sky and an abstract agricultural landscape, alluding to the cornfields of Illinois. The deep blue color also represents the importance of water to the development of the State of Illinois, from the Mississippi River to Lake Michigan.



2764

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago, and spent several years of my adult life in Chicago. Though I currently live outside the US with my family, I return to Illinois nearly every year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

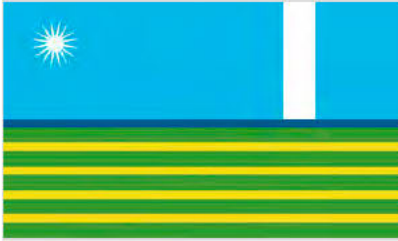
This flag represents the natural and artificial landscapes of Illinois, with its two-tone green and blue fields referring to the sky and flat prairie landscape. The vertical white bar represents the urban landscape of Chicago, the birthplace of the skyscraper. The blue band at the center of the flag represents Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River and the Illinois and Michigan Canal, linking the two. The star represents Illinois's status as the 21st state.



2765

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago, and spent several years of my adult life in Chicago. Though I currently live outside the US with my family, I return to Illinois nearly every year.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the landscapes of Illinois, with its blue field referring to the sky and the green and yellow bands representing the agricultural landscape. The vertical white bar represents the urban landscape of Chicago, the birthplace of the skyscraper. The blue band at the center of the flag represents Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River and the Illinois and Michigan Canal, linking the two. The 16-pointed star represents Illinois native Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the US.

2766

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the suburbs of Chicago, and spent several years of my adult life in Chicago. Though I currently live outside the US with my family, I return to Illinois nearly every year.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the landscapes of Illinois, with its green and blue fields referring to the sky and prairie landscape. The vertical white bar represents the urban landscape of Chicago, the birthplace of the skyscraper. The blue band at the center of the flag represents Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River and the Illinois and Michigan Canal. The 16-pointed star represents Illinois native Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the US.

2767



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here all my life. born in Chicago and live in Yorkville. My Mom let me use her Gmail, and phone number.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The states on The top, left, and right, and bottom represent the fact that Illinois was the 21st to be a state. The states on bottom represent the great water in the state The Mississippi, Ohio, and Lake Michigan. the deer is an white tailed deer our state animal. For the colors I went with American colors

2768



Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] I am a 6th grade student at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Academy in Chicago Illinois. My art teacher gave us the assignment to design the new state flag for Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

i think this should be on the flag because the state flower, the blue violet, represents faith, affection, intuition, and love which is perfect for our state.

2769



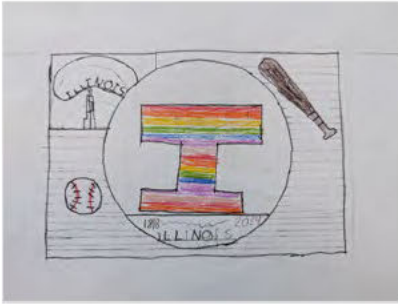
Relationship to Illinois

I am a 6th grade boy at Our lady of Mount Carmel Academy in Chicago Illinois and I want to win

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It has the state tree and our state flower.

2770



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life, I love this place. Its gave me a lot, my life, my friends and my family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I draw the baseball and the bat was because we have the Cubs and they suck. Why I draw the bean was because it is a big landmark. And why the I is a rainbow is that Illinois is a great place to live.

2771



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 6th grade girl at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Academy in Chicago Illinois. My art teacher had us design a new Illinois state flag as an assignment.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I want to submit this flag because I think it really represents our country and our state. I think it would be beautiful for our state.

2772



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a bird and there's music and florals that surrounds it.

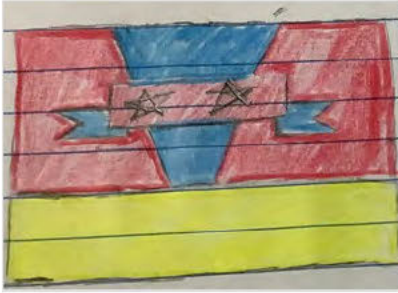
2773

Relationship to Illinois

I am [REDACTED] I am 17 years old, I am a student at Ridgewood high school in Norridge High school in Norridge Illinois. I am submitting my flag as part of my civics class. My teacher is Ms. Lee Ann Rutherford. [REDACTED]. I have lived in Illinois for my whole life and consider this place my home no matter what.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The color of blue and red symbolize freedom in this country and state, the yellow on the bottom would symbolize the big corn fields we are known for and proud of. The banner on the front would be for the Illinois state building. Last the two stars symbolize Springfield and Chicago. I have always loved Illinois but have always been hesitant about the flag and how I feel it should be able to describe more of this amazing state.



2774

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow in the flag stands for the prairie state of Illinois and the farming of Illinois it is at the bottom because most of farming in Illinois is in the southern part of Illinois. The blue stands for the waters near Chicago and Chicago itself it is on the top of the flag because Chicago and the waters are in the north. And the star in the middle is from the Chicago flag because Chicago is a major part of Illinois and it is in the middle because Springfield is the capitol it is in central IL.



2775

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in the state my entire life. I attended the state's flagship public university and used the education received there to build a career in one of the most challenging state government agencies in Illinois. While I have no uniform, I do elect to work with the Illinois State Flag on my jacket daily and plan to continue doing so with any selection made by this committee. I hope the selected design appropriately illustrates the state's diversity and history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design represents the urban and rural portions of Illinois with vertical lines resembling skyscrapers as well as horizontal lines for the sprawling agricultural fields. The charge in the upper left combines three specific symbols: the Wallace Rice star of Chicago, the abstract art of the Illiniwek, and Lincoln gazing toward the fly. The colors are those of the Centennial Flag. This is an additional submission slightly altering an earlier entry to better balance the overall layout.



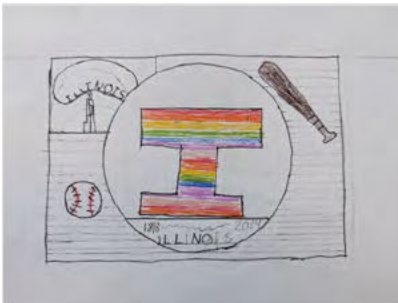
2776

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life and i love this place. Its gave me a lot, my life, my friends, and my family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I draw the baseball and the bat because we have the Chicago Cubs and White Sox. Why i draw the bean was because it is a big landmark. And why the I is a rainbow is that Illinois is a great place to live.



2777

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago Illinois in 2010 for school, and have lived here ever since. I plan on staying with my family, and raising my two kids here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design draws from the history of Illinois and previous flags. The flag is set on a white background referencing the current and centennial flag. The abstract patterning forms an "1818" in reference to the year Illinois became a state. This is in blue to pay homage to the centennial flag, but also to the rich history of the lakes, rivers, and canals of the state. The star, representing Illinois, is displayed in a deep red, to symbolize the color of the state prairie grass, Big Bluestem.



2778

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago Illinois in 2010 and have lived here ever since. I plan on staying with my family and raising my two kids here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design borrows from previous flags of Illinois. The two blue sides reference the major water bodies of the state, Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. These are set on a white background mating the color scheme Illinois centennial flag. The white void between the two creates an abstract "I" along with the center stars, referencing the Illinois Sesquicentennial Flag. The 21 stars are displayed 10 on top for the northern states and 10 below for the southern states at the time of i



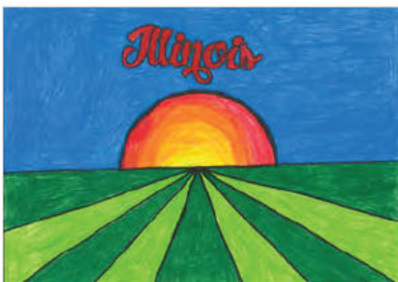
2779

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my whole life. The area where I live is big on farming and agriculture culture. I like my state a lot and am excited to see what the new flag will be.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The majority of Illinois is farming communities. A lot of farmers wake up early every morning before sunrise. My flag is the view of a sunrise over the fields of Illinois with the bright blue sky of a new day.



2780



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I have lived here for my entire life. I go to school here and my whole family is in Illinois as well. My favorite thing about Illinois is that it has all four seasons.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag includes the state flower, which is a violet. I fully colored my design and I used purple to create contrast. The big lettering that I used to write out the word Illinois gives my drawing emphasis.

2781



Relationship to Illinois

I have gone to school in Illinois since I started my education. I was born in Illinois and have lived there my whole life, along with my family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my flag, I included a bird, which is the Illinois state bird, the cardinal. The flowers included are the state flower, the violet. The year 1818 is for when Illinois entered the Union. State sovereignty, National Union is included as it is the state motto. I included Land of Lincoln as it is well known that president Abraham Lincoln was born in Springfield, Illinois. The flat lands behind the flowers represent the plains and flatlands of Illinois.

2782



Relationship to Illinois

Although Illinois isn't the most jaw-dropping sight, it reveals the state is still a great place to live. Illinois means a lot to me because of the warm weather with the county fairs that have great rides. Including the fields of corn and wheat. It also has cold weather. I've lived in Illinois for most of my childhood. It's a great place to visit, since Chicago is a very famous place. Although it can be crowded in the city. Even if there's not cool mountains or anything, there's many fun

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew corn because it is the state vegetable and Illinois has a lot of corn. The eagle also represents our state. The orange and red represent the sunset.

2783



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here all my life. My favorite thing about Illinois is school district 100 in Belvidere, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a mixture of some of the natural icons for the state such as the cardinal and sweet corn fields.

2784



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois native and lifelong resident. I am an alumnus of the University of Illinois.

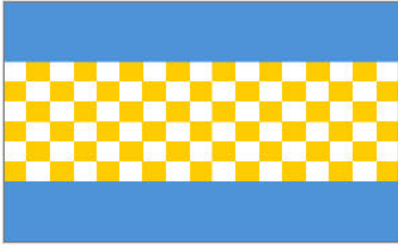
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue "I" represents the Illinois river, between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River. Green bands represent forests of the south and prairies of the north. The orange band represents agriculture and energy. White bands represent the transportation networks connecting East to West through the state. Stars represent the motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union": 20 blue stars for states joining the Union before Illinois and one white star for Illinois' place in the Union.

2785

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a life-long Illinois resident. So is my wife. My family has lived here for generations. Her family immigrated to this country shortly before she was born. Despite different backgrounds, our parents chose to live and raise their children in Illinois for the same reasons. Those same reasons are why we are raising our three children here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white and gold pattern represents our urban and rural communities, evoking both Chicago's famous "grid" and the checkerboard of our downstate farms. There are exactly 102 white and gold squares: one for each of Illinois's 102 counties. The blue stripes represent the great bodies of water flanking our state: the Mississippi, the Ohio, and Lake Michigan. While the flag is simple (I have no design training), it'd be unique among the 50 state flags: instantly recognizable as "Illinois".

2786

Relationship to Illinois

I've been a resident of Illinois since I moved from Iowa in 2005



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue colors represent Lake Michigan and the many rivers that cross the state and define its borders: Mississippi, Illinois, Wabash, Ohio, etc. The stripes are angled at 21 degrees from vertical to reflect Illinois being the 21st U.S. State. The 8-pointed star resembles a compass rose, and is located above and to the right of the flag's center to show the relative position of Illinois slightly north and east of the center of the country.

2787

Relationship to Illinois

I've been a resident of Illinois since I moved from Iowa in 2005. I've worked as a graphic designer in Chicago since then.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue represents the water and sky of Illinois. Green represents nature and agriculture. The white stripe is angled at 21 degrees from horizontal to represent Illinois being the 21st U.S. state. The symbol in the upper left is a geometric interpretation of the five-petaled state flower, the Violet, with a star at its center to represent statehood.



2788

Relationship to Illinois

Middle school student/resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Keegan created a bold simple design, incorporating images to represent the larger metropolitan areas like Chicago as well as the agriculture of the rural areas.



2789

Relationship to Illinois

I've been a resident of Illinois since I moved from Iowa in 2005. I've been working as a graphic designer in Chicago since then.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green rays represent the prairies of Illinois and its agricultural heritage. The blue represents the sky and the waters of Illinois that put it at the crossroads of the U.S. The star on the horizon shows statehood and is positioned on the flag as Illinois is positioned in the country.



2790



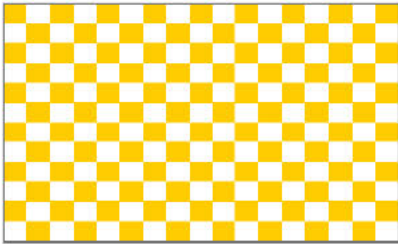
Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raised in Illinois!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag carries a few different meanings, some more subtle than others. The most noticeable is the purple violet, our state flower, symbolizing humanity and modesty. Then, there are the twenty-one stars, representing Illinois' position as the twenty-first state. Lastly, behind the flower, you'll see the golden rolling fields that reflect Illinois as the "Prairie State".

2791



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a life-long Illinois resident. So is my wife. My family has lived here for generations. Her family immigrated to this country shortly before she was born. Despite different backgrounds, our parents chose to live and raise their children in Illinois for the same reasons. Those same reasons are why we are raising our three children here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The simple white and gold pattern represents the urban and rural communities that make Illinois great. It evokes both Chicago's famous "grid" layout and the checkerboard of our downstate farms. The gold hints at cultural and economic wealth our communities create. There are exactly 102 white and gold squares on this flag: one for each of Illinois's 102 counties. It's a simple, but evocative, design. I think it would stand out among the 50 state flags: instantly recognizable as "Illinois".

2792



Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I've lived there my whole life. Something cool I've seen about Illinois from all these years is that there's a lot to explore and a lot to do around Ill. Some downsides about Illinois are that public transport can sometimes be ghetto. For example there's a lot of homeless or crackheads sleeping on the trains and taking 4 seats for themselves. My favorite thing about Illinois will have to be all the job opportunities that are available.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bald eagle represents America and is the national bird of the US. It represents the strength and freedom of America. I did a shield with the cover of the American flag as a way to say that America will protect and save. The date of when Illinois became the twenty first state of union. The Illinois star represents fort dearborn, the great Chicago fire, and 2 world fairs that took place in Chicago. I added the fleur-de-lis as a way to represent unity and local pride as someone who lives in Illinois

2793



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago, Illinois for all of my life. I only moved neighborhoods once and that was when I was little. I have made a lot of fun memories here in Chicago with my friends and family. But sometimes I don't really like it because some people here could be very weird and dumb and do dumb stuff. Most of my dad's family lives here so I always hang out with all my cousins every weekend. And downtown Chicago could be fun but most of the time it's lame. I don't hate it and I don't love it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design element is water to present lake Michigan. My second design element is a violet flower representing the state flower. My third design element is the sun just for background. My fourth design element is the numbers 1818 to represent when Illinois became a state. My fifth design element is a monarch butterfly which represents the state insect.

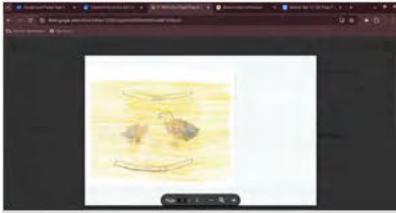
2794

Relationship to Illinois

I'm [redacted] and i grew up in [redacted] illinois my whole life. My relationship with the state is, it shaped me into who I am and I couldn't imagine living anywhere else. I love Illinois because it's a lot of diversity. Many different cities are chill but fun at the same time and you can meet a lot of different people with different personalities. And I love that. What i hate about illinois is the gas prices

Explain the meaning behind your flag

my first design element is yellow background I chose this color because the color yellow to me is like a happy color and when i go outside in the spring in Illinois I see a lot of yellow. my second element is 12/3/1818 i wanna put that on there because that's when illinois was founded. i want a 2 eagles for my third element. Because the bald eagle represents the united states . soy beans on the ground soybeans represents illinois food because our farmers are known for growing them. grass



2795

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Kourtney, I was born in Evanston IL and raised in Chicago IL. Illinois is actually a pretty good state. The people here mind their business sometimes, but if you're from the southside or the westside then you grew up as white people are bougie and have it all type of people. If you're black and you live on the Northside then you "made it out the hood" or you're white washed. Illinois to me is a different type of lifestyle especially if you're born in different parts of it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Yellow star; represent corn because we grow a lot of corn Blue will be the water because of lake michigan A big I to represent Illinois 21 stars to represent how we are number 21 on the flag of the United States state of Illinois Represent Illinois



2796

Relationship to Illinois



My relationship with the state of Illinois is that I was born here in Chicago and have been living here for as much time I was alive. Illinois had been my only home since I was born but, specifically in Chicago where I have been living for so much time. Chicago is a very special place because it is a place where I have a lot of memories from my childhood with my family and also how it's a place where my family came to be able to live a better life that my family immigrated to have a better life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A blue back ground because of the lake Michigan, the eagle with the state motto in it's mouth, the Illinois flower which is named "Common blue violet", also the year that it became a state, and a crop of wheat which is known for too.

2797

Relationship to Illinois



My name is Tamron, I was born and raised in Chicago. I really have a love and hate relationship with the state of Illinois, it has a lot of things that other states may not have. I loved visiting downtown at one point until it got boring because I had seen everything but it's some things I had not experienced yet. I love the restaurants here and the food that Chicago is known for such as Italian beef, deep dish pizza, Harold's, and Uncle Remus.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design element is the light blue background because of Lake Michigan. My second design is a Monarch Butterfly because Illinois is a beautiful state like the butterfly. My third design was the White oak tree because it is widespread in Illinois. Sovereignty, I chose the word Sovereignty to represent power. Shield, I chose the shield to represent the first 13 states.

2798

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and lived most of my young life here and plan on going to college here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green representing the land blue for the Illinois River and a piece of wheat with 21 points representing Illinois being the 21st state in the union the white star representing Springfield and the North facing point represents the states general northward direction it's ties to the h north and it's time as the northwestern and Illinois territories



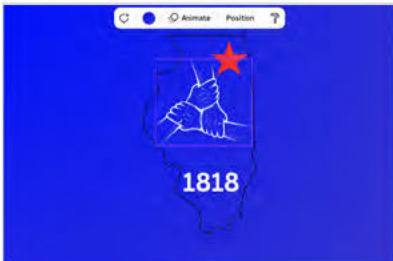
2799

Relationship to Illinois

I am [REDACTED] A 16 year old high school student at intrinsic downtown campus. Illinois has meant alot to me. There hasn't been anything like it and I have been to many other places but none feels like illinois. The people in Illinois have always been welcoming to any one that comes to the state and that's very important because people view our state differently. And I could never forget that we are the state with the best sports and there's no other state that's better. Just had to add that

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design element is the blue background because of lake michigan, My second element is the hand locked together to represent union, My third element is illinois outline I used this because the outline means a lot to our state It's used in a lot of places, My fourth element is the red star at the top of the illinois outline the represent the great Chicago fire My last element is the 1818 to represent the year the state was founded.



2800

Relationship to Illinois

Have visited countless times and love it. Live in neighboring state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Loosely based off bicentennial flag. Star represents the US, white represents the snow of winter and blue stripe represents forward movement towards progress



2801

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and currently living in the capital city, Springfield. I am currently a State of Illinois employee. I think as an employee this process will allow me to become more involved in the legislative process, as well as learn from my peers.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose a pennant shape for this design because, just like the shape of Illinois, the top is wider and then starts to slant inwards towards the bottom. The darker blue portion of the flag contains the 21 stars, just like the United States flag in 1818. The orange is on the bottom representing the vast farmland in the southern parts of Illinois. The light blue signifies more of Illinois' urban area in Chicago being in the northern part of Illinois.

2802

Relationship to Illinois

I'm [redacted] and i grew up in [redacted] illinois my whole life. My relationship with the state is, it shaped me into who I am and I couldn't imagine living anywhere else. I love Illinois because it's a lot of diversity. Many different cities are chill but fun at the same time and you can meet a lot of different people with different personalities. And I love that. What i hate about illinois is the gas prices



Explain the meaning behind your flag

my first design element is yellow background I chose this color because the color yellow to me is like a happy color and when i go outside in the spring in Illinois I see a lot of yellow. my second element is 12/3/1818 i wanna put that on there because that's when illinois was founded. i want a 2 eagles for my third element. Because the bald eagle represents the united states . soy beans on the ground soybeans represents illinois food because our farmers are known for growing them. grass

2803

Relationship to Illinois

I am [REDACTED], A 16 year old high school student at intrinsic downtown campus. Illinois has meant alot to me. There hasn't been anything like it and I have been to many other places but none feels like illinois. The people in Illinois have always been welcoming to any one that comes to the state and that's very important because people view our state differently. And I could never forget that we are the state with the best sports and there's no other state that's better. Just had to add that

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design element is the blue background because of lake michigan, My second element is the hand locked together to represent union, My third element is illinois outline I used this because the outline means a lot to our state It's used in a lot of places, My fourth element is the red star at the top of the illinois outline the represent the great Chicago fire My last element is the 1818 to represent the year the state was founded.



2804

Relationship to Illinois

I'm [REDACTED] and i grew up in [REDACTED] illinois my whole life. My relationship with the state is, it shaped me into who I am and I couldn't imagine living anywhere else. I love Illinois because it's a lot of diversity. Many different cities are chill but fun at the same time and you can meet a lot of different people with different personalities. And I love that. What i hate about illinois is the gas prices

Explain the meaning behind your flag

my first design element is yellow background I chose this color because the color yellow to me is like a happy color and when i go outside in the spring in Illinois I see a lot of yellow. my second element is 12/3/1818 i wanna put that on there because that's when illinois was founded. i want a 2 eagles for my third element. Because the bald eagle represents the united states . soy beans on the ground soybeans represents illinois food because our farmers are known for growing them. grass



2805

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Tamron, I was born and raised in Chicago. I really have a love and hate relationship with the state of Illinois, it has a lot of things that other states may not have. I loved visiting downtown at one point until it got boring because I had seen everything but it's some things I had not experienced yet. I love the restaurants here and the food that Chicago is known for such as Italian beef, deep dish pizza, Harold's, and Uncle Remus.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design element is the light blue background because of Lake Michigan. My second design is a Monarch Butterfly because Illinois is a beautiful state like the butterfly. My third design was the White Oak tree because it is widespread in Illinois. Sovereignty, I chose the word Sovereignty to represent power. Shield, I chose the shield to represent the first 13 states.



2806

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and currently living in the capital city, Springfield. I am currently a State of Illinois employee. I think as an employee this process will allow me to become more involved in the legislative process, as well as learn from my peers.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag pays homage to the 1918 Illinois flag, designed by Wallace Rice. The colors in this flag, are however changed. The orange is on the bottom representing the vast farmland in the southern parts of Illinois. The middle blue represents central Illinois and its capitol being in the middle of the state. The light blue signifies more of Illinois' urban area in Chicago being in the northern part of Illinois.



2807

Relationship to Illinois

I teach social studies at Carbondale Community High School. I have several submissions, but these were created by my high school freshmen students.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue and orange: this duo of colors are used by the University of Illinois and Chicago Bears. The blue also represents the water of the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. Yellow represents the agricultural significance of Illinois. Violet represents the state flower of Illinois. There is a 16 sided star which represents Lincoln as the 16th president, the violet, and a wheat/crop symbol that represents the agricultural history.



2808

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, and currently living in the capital city, Springfield. I am currently a State of Illinois employee. I think as an employee this process will allow me to become more involved in the legislative process, as well as learn from my peers.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design contains 21 stars, signifying Illinois being the 21st state. The shape of the stars resemble an eagle, kind of like the United States seal. This eagle look is homage to the current state seal/ flag. The 2 blue vertical lines represent 2 large bodies of water on each side of Illinois, the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan.



2809

Relationship to Illinois

I teach social studies at Carbondale Community High School. I have several submissions, but these were created by my high school freshmen students.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Most of the symbols and colors were inspired by the original flag and state facts. The white, sun, and plant were inspired by the original flag. The blue represents the many blue things in Illinois: the state mineral, fluorite, bluegill, big bluestem grass, and the violet (flower). The white-tail deer is the state animal, and the color is for the state flower.





2810

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Aurora and live in Glen Ellyn. I am a 4th grader in Wheaton. I was a student who helped establish the IL state mushroom.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag shows all the regions of IL. Each region has a state symbol written within the region. The Image shape is of the state of IL.



2811

Relationship to Illinois

My family is of Irish & German descent and have resided in IL since at least the 1860s. I was born and raised in Illinois, grew up in Rolling Meadows & lived in many other suburbs as an adult. I was a clerk at Cook County's District 3 Courthouse. My Mom also worked at the District 3 Courthouse & retired as a Deputy Sheriff. My Grandfather worked for the Santa Fe Railway & my other Grandfather was a finishing carpenter at the Field Building in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design is representational of farming, waterways, soybeans, violets, corn & the skyline. Three-quarters of the state is farmland as rich black soil is the greatest resource. IL is a top producer of soybeans, corn & ethanol. The violets represent the state flower. The blue sections represent the rivers and Lake Michigan, as they are a major source of drinking water, transportation & recreation. The skyline represents the urban sector of the state. IL was admitted to the union in 1818.

2812

Relationship to Illinois

I have always called Illinois my home. Many generations of my family have also said the same.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Distinct design, reprising the eagle from original flag. Amber field represents the prairie for the Prairie State. The navy blue is the unity of the people (darker blue because of a stronger unity). The eagle represents the state and is pressing forward with a prairie wind. The red bands represent the diverse people, although distinct, are all advancing together with the State of Illinois for the common interest. The star represents the promise that the state holds.



2813

Relationship to Illinois

I am submitting on behalf of my nephew who is a resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The drawing on the top is a cardinal with the body being a house to mean living in Illinois. The drawing on the bottom is a sun because of the old state flag. The 12/3/1818 is Illinois's birthday. The Land of Lincoln is Illinois's slogan with Illinois underneath it.



2814

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in IL my whole life. My Mom also grew up in IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is a white tailed deer next to a Giant puffball and two white oak trees. The Giant puffball is special because my class created the idea of establishing a state symbol in 2024. All the other parts are state symbols as well.



2815

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and am a current resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

From left to right, the green represents the agriculture history of Illinois, the blue represents both the significance of water that defines and shapes Illinois on multiple sides, and the tribal color of Illinwek. The orange symbol is one of many that is intimately connected with art of the Illinois tribe. Combined with the French Fleur de Lis symbol to represent the convergence of French and Native peoples here. The railroad and the color black represent Illinois' representation of industry.



2816

Relationship to Illinois

I teach social studies at Carbondale Community High School. I have several submissions, but these were created by my high school freshmen students.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Red is for the state bird, the cardinal. I chose green to represent the prairie and light blue for both the sky and Chicago. Yellow is for the sun, since nature is a large part of Illinois. The semi-circle represents the rising sun over the prairie. The two red stars are for the mix of agriculture and urbanization in Illinois.



2817

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Elmhurst. I live in Medinah. I am a 5th grader in Wheaton.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tree represents forests and farmland.



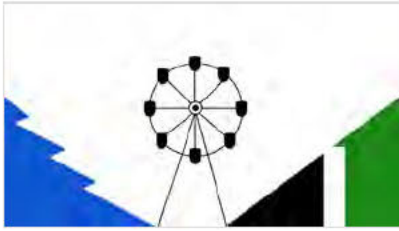
2818

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and am a current resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

From left to right: The blue represents the significance of water to Illinois, both as the physical shaper of the land and the means of trade and transportation on the MI River and the Lakes. The Ferris Wheel is a homage to Illinois' first appearance on the world stage in 1893 World's Fair, the black is Illinois' rich industry, the white column is a building, representing the White City of Chicago, and the green the agricultural landscape of produce and our various parks.



2819

Relationship to Illinois

Lived here for 62 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

21 stars for 21st state
Top Red is Chicago Bulls Color
Bottom Red is Blackhawks and Illinois State Red
Orange is for University of Illinois
Next Blue is Cubs Blue
Illinois is Bears Blue
1818 Is University of Illinois Blue



2820

Relationship to Illinois

I immigrated to United States in 2000, arrived in Illinois, and haven't left. I've built a life with a family I love in a place I consider more of a home than the one I was born in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The thick blue margins symbolize Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, vital waterway borders. The herringbone pattern represents agricultural roots and prairies. Each grain honors states admitted before Illinois, leading to the central red star for Springfield. Orange identifies us as the leading pumpkin producer. The upward design signifies growth, while three solid bars celebrate our capital cities: Kaskaskia, Vandalia, and Springfield, marking our journey and resilience.



2821

Relationship to Illinois

im a citizen born and raised.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Red it represents the Chicago fire And how it was a tragic situation for the city of* Chicago.* It was devastating for the city of Chicago because the fire lasted almost a day and a half.I chose this color for the background to represent Lake Michigan, and allude to the Chicago flag. Lake Michigan is the biggest body of water in the State of Illinois, and provides a great economic benefit to the state through fishing and shipping.



2822

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home since birth. My mom's family immigrated here from Guerrero, Mexico, in the 70's. My family and I have called Chicago home since then. Illinois is a beautiful place to be raised, and I think about how I was blessed to grow up in a place like this.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag incorporates elements of Illinois that I feel people overlook. We have beautiful scenery outside of the cities, and nature is all around us. I added trees, and the beautiful moon we have shining over us most nights. I added wheat and pumpkins to demonstrate the specialty crops we have in our state, and stars surrounding the inner circle to show our freedom as people. The colors chosen were out of the way I view Illinois. The darker colors represent the beauty in the different seasons.



2823

Relationship to Illinois

I teach social studies at Carbondale Community High School. These submissions are from my students.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green and blue represent the beautiful nature of Illinois. The stars represent American pride. The white-tail deer is the state animal.



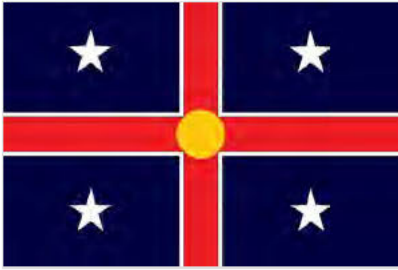
2824

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived here all of my life. Illinois has a long and storied history. I am proud to be from this great state and I believe that we should have a flag that reflects that greatness.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue quadrants: The state's 4 territorial periods (Northwest, Indiana, Illinois, Statehood); and its four governing periods (Indigenous, France, Britain, USA) Red cross: The four cardinal directions Yellow circle: The sun, as seen on the Seal. It represents Illinois as a central hub for the USA as well as a bright future 5-pointed stars: The last 5 tribes of the Illinois Confederation The colors red, white, and blue: Our ties to the USA and also R: Strength W: Peace B: Lakes and Rivers



2825

Relationship to Illinois

I immigrated to the United States in 2014 from the Philippines, when I married my wife. We settled in Grayslake, Illinois shortly after and have lived here ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Illinois flag features a bold blue hexagon in the center, representing the six states that border us. The striped blue triangle symbolizes Lake Michigan. The three yellow corner triangles represent our exports of soy and corn, which is a large part of our agricultural history. At the heart, and middle, of the hexagon, a large star encircled by 20 smaller stars signifies Illinois as the 21st state. A red circle encloses the stars to symbolize our unity with all the other states in our nation.



2826

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Wheaton and have lived here my entire life. I am a 5th grader in Wheaton as well.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has a giant puffball, the state mushroom releasing spores on top of a white oak tree stump. White oak is the state tree. It also has the state bird flying in the sky.





2827

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Arlington Heights and live there. My great great grandparents came to IL from Italy, Ireland, and France. I am a 5th grader in Wheaton.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents all the people in IL. There are 5 white stripes which represent the beautiful snow in IL. The 5 blue stripes represent all the different communities. The stars stand for the types of people.



2828

Relationship to Illinois

I teach social studies at Carbondale Community High School. These submissions are from my freshmen students.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tree in the middle of the flag is a white oak tree which is the state tree. It is also there to symbolize the wildlife and nature in certain parts of Illinois



2829

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 4th grader in Wheaton IL. I was one of the students who established the IL state mushroom.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a cardinal on it and this is the IL state bird.

2830

Relationship to Illinois

I teach social studies at Carbondale Community High School. These submissions are from my freshmen students.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is third nationally in the exportation of agricultural products. The symbolism should represent this impressive task. I chose to depict the cardinal in the center as it is the state bird. The blue border strips represent the impressive rivers. The dark green background represents the forests of downstate Illinois.



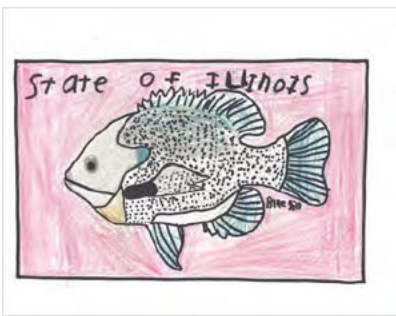
2831

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL. My great grandparents went to University of IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is the image of the state fish the Blue Gill.



2832

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since moving to Chicago in 1999. As a consulting transportation engineer, I have worked on numerous projects with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois Tollway, O'Hare International Airport, Metra, and the Chicago Department of Transportation. These projects have afforded me the opportunity to visit diverse locations in Illinois including various Chicago neighborhoods, its surrounding suburbs, and municipalities throughout the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white field maintains continuity from the current flag. The two navy stripes represent the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash Rivers, and Lake Michigan, which form 75% of Illinois' borders. The gold stripe represents farmlands, which cover 75% of the state. The color is symbolic of soybeans and corn, Illinois' top two agricultural exports. The stars represent Northern, Central, and Southern Illinois. The stars are six-pointed, an icon in the Chicago area, where 75% of the state's citizens reside.



2833

Relationship to Illinois

I teach social studies at Carbondale Community High School. These submissions are from my freshmen students.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design has a variety of purples, blues, and white. The bottom shades represent the marshy land downstate and its flora and fauna. The top blues represent the arable land. The two circles in the middle represent the recent eclipses, with paths of totality the impacted Illinois. The antlers represent the state animal, the white-tail deer. The star represents Illinois' role in the Unions defeat of the Confederacy and the determination of Illinoisans.

2834

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Belvidere, Illinois. My parents moved to Belvidere from Rockford in 2009 one year before I was born and the year that my sister was going into school. My parents were also raised in Illinois their whole lives.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to express the important details of Illinois including the colleges, state insect, sports teams, the iconic bean in Chicago, the Chicago flag and lastly, corn what Illinois is known for. Each letter in the word Illinois uses a different college. The three main colleges in Illinois are Illinois State University, University of Illinois, and Northwestern in Chicago.

2835

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my whole life. I love the city of Chicago. I think the buildings are pretty and I am a big Cub's fan. I like the green grass of the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew corn on my flag, because it is the state vegetable. The city is meant to represent my favorite city Chicago. There are lots of ponds in Illinois, which is why I included one, that is surrounded by green grass. The fish that is swimming in the pond is the state fish, the bluegill. I also added the date 1809 because that is the year that Illinois was organized as a territory.



2836

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag 1: Red white and blue colors represent America. The cardinal is our state bird.

The 21 stars represent Illinois becoming the 21st state. Includes our state name.

Flag 2: Red white and blue colors represent America. The 21 stars represent Illinois becoming the 21st state.



2837

Relationship to Illinois

i go to school in illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

i ilve here my hold lfe



2838



Relationship to Illinois

I relate to Illinois because I am a part of school district 100 in Belvidere, IL. I have lived in Illinois for a long time, all of my life. I take part in activities in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag shows our Illinois state insect, the monarch butterfly. It also shows the date 1818, which is the year that Illinois was founded. The colors represent part of the US flag and the colors of the butterfly.

2839



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the state of Illinois (born in Barrington, raised in Algonquin, and attended high school in Carpentersville) and have traveled all over the state to compete in high school sports and go birdwatching. I also lived in Chicago for a year (Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary is truly something special), and loved every second of it. Almost all of my best memories were made in Illinois and almost all my friends are from here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I worked extensively on the symbolism of my design to make it tell the story of Illinois: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZFQV3U-](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZFQV3U-BtT8rgSBaBxUJQewqsVxK3V5lyOwpjWYnXq0/edit?usp=sharing)

[BtT8rgSBaBxUJQewqsVxK3V5lyOwpjWYnXq0/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZFQV3U-BtT8rgSBaBxUJQewqsVxK3V5lyOwpjWYnXq0/edit?usp=sharing) .Here's a short summary:Blue: Union heritage and the importance of waterways, vague shape of Illinois pushing westwardOrange: heat of industry, agriculture, sacred Native landWhite: state sovereignty, old flagStar: Illiniwek confederacy, ChicagoRailroad: 20 states before Illinois, importance of railways

2840

Relationship to Illinois

I am an 8th grade student in a small, rural town in Southern Illinois. This has been my home my whole life. I attend Selmaville Grade School. Growing up in a rural community downstate means we sometimes feel forgotten or overlooked, but I love my rural heritage and want to see it represented on the flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The corn symbolizes the rural area I live in. The eagle on the flying on the flag represents our country... When you think of Illinois you would probably think of Chicago so it should be on our flag. The dates on the flag are important because 1818 is when Illinois got became a state and 1868 is when our state motto was adopted. The words that are going across the top are the state motto



2841

Relationship to Illinois

The design of my flag represents Illinois in a way that many people don't think of. Most people think of Chicago when they hear 'Illinois.' I think of corn because farmers in Illinois grow a lot of corn in the rural, southern part of the state I have grown up in. I am an 8th grade student in Salem, Illinois. I kept the basic stuff like the state seal and the motto because I feel like those things need to be on the state flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On my flag, I drew corn on the sides because in Illinois, farmers grow a lot of corn. I drew the state seal which is an eagle standing on top of wood. I thought the bird standing on top of wood instead of a rock would make a nice new touch. Illinois has a lot of wooded areas so that's where my idea came from. I kept the year 1818 on the wood to represent when Illinois became a state. Next, I kept the state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union" and wrote it above the eagle.



2842

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Navy blue regions represent the major bodies of water that have defined Illinois geographically and economically. The Yellow represents the agricultural heartland of Illinois. The stripe represents the Illinois river flowing diagonally across the state. The two red stars represent the state's past achievements and future aspirations as well as paying homage to the two phrases of the former Illinois flag: "State Sovereignty" and "national unity".



2843

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is important to me because it is my only home. I've lived here my whole life. When I go on vacation, I love coming home. I love the cooler weather, visiting Chicago, and being with friends. Everything I love is in Illinois, so it is very important to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used the state bird of a cardinal as a representation of the people of Illinois. I showed the colors of when the sun rises, a new day starts, and we wake up again. There are other smaller details included in my design. The color of the word Illinois is purple for the state flower, the lilac. The branches and leaves represent the colder weather.



2844

Relationship to Illinois

Born and Raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four blue waves represent the four bodies of water that define Illinois geographically and economically, the Mississippi River, the Illinois River, the Ohio River, and Lake Michigan. The Yellow represents Illinois agricultural heartland. The Three stars reference Illinois' 3 branches of government, 3 state capitals and 3 U.S. Presidents.



2845

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two navy stripes represent the bodies of water that define Illinois geographically and economically. The Yellow represents Illinois' agricultural and its prairies. The eagle feather pays homage to the current flag as well as acting as a tasteful tribute to the natives of the geographic region Illinois now encompasses, including the people who Illinois is named after.



2846

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag uses the Red and Blue of the official US flag, relating Illinois, "the Land of Lincoln" to its presidential past. It also uses the sky blue of Chicago's flag, and a golden star that parallels Chicago's flag, unifying the branding for the state. This gold start not only represents the rich golden parries that our economy is built on. It is placed in the top corner so it is always seen, even when the flag doesn't wave. The shape of Illinois provides a unique twist on a classic tri-band.



2847

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and I loved the place at the time of moving in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag reads Illinois with calligraphy in front of a bald eagle with its wings spread in glory, with the colors representing the United States. The tail bears the number 21 as Illinois was the 21st state formed. There is a ring around to mimic a stamp which imitates declaration and this has the state motto, the phrase 'Land of Lincoln' and two other years that are significantly important to Illinois. 1818 was the year Illinois was formed in and 1970 was the year Illinois got a constitution in.



2848

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I have lived in Evanston, Illinois, my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag utilizes the American red, white, and blue, as well as Chicago's sky blue and Illinois's new gold. The red, white and blue tie into the identity the American, as well as many American state, flag, which also utilize the same colors. The star and blue band tie into Illinois's established branding with the Chicago flag. The golden star represents the economy and unity of Illinois, combining our golden prairies with booming city economy with a single symbol.



2849

Relationship to Illinois

As an 8th grade student in southern Illinois, I have grown up enjoying the small community life. But I also love visiting the big city of Chicago and all it has to offer especially the baseball!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made a city skyline, representing Chicago. From the sports teams, the food, the people, and all the jobs, Chicago is an important city. Next, I made two rivers representing the Mississippi and the Illinois Rivers. I made the flag set on a green field representing all the farmland and prairie grass. On the water tower, I put the year Illinois became a state. I added a white-tail deer because deer hunting being a very famous tradition in Illinois. In the top right, I put a cardinal.



2850

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here for my entire life, and am currently going to college at Lake Forest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The six points of the Chicago star represent the governments that have overseen the Chicago area. (Indigenous tribes are notably absent from the list.). This 7-pointed star includes them. The number of stars is representative of the Council of 3 Fires which was on the territory of Illinois. The bird is the Cardinal which is the state bird. The flower is the blue violet which is the state flower, the blue represents Illinois waterways, white represents snow, and style recalls the Centennial flag



2851

Relationship to Illinois

As of right now, I reside in Michigan. However, I do have family in Illinois. I also research information about all the states in my free time.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star in the center represents the state itself, and the star design is found on the flag of Chicago. Since Chicago is the largest population and economic center in the state, it only makes sense to represent it. The star separates the band into two colors is representative of the rural agricultural area of the state, and the urban sectors of the state. Blue and Orange are also colors often associated with the state. The 3 bands also show the state's Northern, Central, and Southern divisions.



2852

Relationship to Illinois

A lifelong Illinoisan, I was born in Downer's Grove, grew up in Batavia, went to college in Dekalb, and have lived in Chicago for ten years now. I have experienced many different communities in the Prairie State and have been proud to call each my home. In Batavia*within the bounds of Fermilab*are tracts of remnant tallgrass prairie, reminders of the breathtaking landscape of ancient Illinois. Their poignant story has stuck with me*one of loss and reinvention, just like Chicago after the fire.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is familiar, echoing the white field, proud sun, and lush prairie from the current flag. The sun from the State Seal*its rays also reminiscent of tassels of corn and flames of the Chicago Fire*reminds us of growth and rebirth. This is a landscape we know*oft-gray skies and flat fields*yet it reminds us of the tallgrasses and the peoples that came before us. By featuring the sun toward the hoist side, we commemorate our state's balance between urban centers and vast rural communities.

2853

Relationship to Illinois

Artist was born in Illinois and still lives here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There's emphasis on a red cardinal as it is the state bird. The flag has the state name and motto as well.



2854

Relationship to Illinois

Artist was born in Illinois and still lives here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are 50 states and Illinois is a happy place. It is the land of Lincoln.



2855



Relationship to Illinois

My family and I were all born in Illinois. Almost all of my family lives in the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A 2:3 ratio white field, trisected horizontally, the center band colored blue to symbolize the rivers and lakes of Illinois. A white disk centered atop the blue, and a smaller blue disk centered atop the white to symbolize the unity of Rural and Urban Illinois and Lake Michigan, respectively.

2856



Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is more than a state to me. It is the place I have chosen to be my studio, home and muse. At 16, I packed my savings, jumped into a car with friends and headed here, captivated by its energy and promise. What began as an adventure has grown into a deep connection with the history and soul of this place. My passion led me to start a business showcasing Illinois' history through apparel:

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top color represents the river, and the bottom color represents agriculture. There are 21 white oak leaves representing our state tree and joining the union as the 21st state. There is a blue violet with 5 points representing our state flower and the fifth state to abolish slavery. The center star represents the 12 Native American tribes of the state.

2857



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and have lived my whole life in Arlington Heights. I am a 4th grader at Prairie School of Dupage in Wheaton. I was a student who helped establish the IL state mushroom the giant puffball.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag includes many state symbols. Such as the white-tailed deer, white oak, monarch, cardinal, violet, and giant puffball. This represents the diversity of IL.

2858



Relationship to Illinois

I teach social studies at Carbondale Community High School. These submissions are from my freshmen students.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red, white, and blue represents the United States. The cardinal is the state bird of Illinois.

2859



Relationship to Illinois

My family and I were all born in Illinois, mainly Chicago, and have lived in the area for 5 generations. Almost all of my family lives in the state. My great great grandfather did the original carpentry on the historical theaters in downtown Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A 2:3 ratio white field, trisected horizontally, the center band colored blue to symbolize the rivers and lakes of Illinois. A white disk centered atop to symbolize the unity of Rural and Urban Illinois. 21, 5-pointed stars in blue upon the edge of the white disk, symbolizing Illinois' place as the 21st state.

2860



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and have lived my whole life in Glen Ellyn. I am a 3rd grader in Wheaton.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It has the state bird, the cardinal. It also has the state flower the violet growing in a prairie. The state butterfly, the monarch flies by the cardinal.

2861

Relationship to Illinois

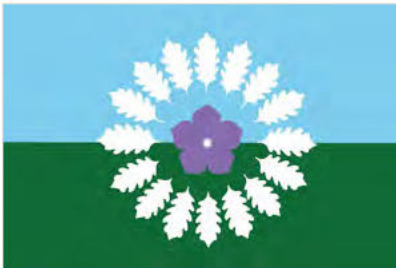
Illinois is more than a state to me. It is the place I have chosen to be my studio, home and muse. At 16, I packed my savings, jumped into a car with friends and headed to here captivated by its energy and promise. What began as an adventure has grown into a deep connection with the history and soul of this place. My passion led me to start a business showcasing Illinois' history through apparel and gifts. Please see

██████████. Thank you for this opportunity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top color represents the river, and the bottom color represents agriculture.

There are 21 white oak leaves representing our state tree and us joining the union as the 21st state. There is a blue violet with 5 points representing our state flower and the fifth state to abolish slavery. The center star represents the 12 Native American tribes of the state.



2862

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is more than a state to me. It is the place I have chosen to be my studio, home and muse. At 16, I packed my savings, jumped into a car with friends and headed to here captivated by its energy and promise. What began as an adventure has grown into a deep connection with the history and soul of this place. My passion led me to start a business showcasing Illinois' history through apparel and gifts. Please see

██████████ Thank you for this opportunity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top color represents the river, and the bottom color represents agriculture.

There are 21 white oak leaves with 102 lobes representing our state tree, us joining the union as the 21st state and all 102 counties. There is a blue violet with 5 points representing our state flower and the fifth state to abolish slavery. The center star represents the 12 Native American tribes of the state.





2863

Relationship to Illinois

I go to Prairie school of DuPage in Wheaton. I was born in IL and live in Glen Ellyn.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a white oak tree in the center. There are monarch butterflies below. There are also two cardinals. One eagle with a shield to represent the United States, that IL is a part of.



2864

Relationship to Illinois

i live in Illinois my hold life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

it's like a flag but a start in the middle why start going around it



2865

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised Illinoisan -same as much of my maternal family.Current Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Slight revision of previously-submitted flag with image code ID 1570. Same meanings apply; center Tri-Star slightly repositioned.

2866

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident for the past two years and a frequent visitor before moving here after finally finding a good job in the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue/Red sun represents the city of Chicago, matching the same pantone colors. The blue stripe and circle represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, the major state bodies of water. The green base is representative of the farmland and fields that fill the interior of the state, with the sunlight shining onto the fields. The four arrows to represent the four seasons of the Midwest.



2867

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student, [REDACTED], here at Neuqua Valley High School and created this flag design in a Computer Graphics 2 class.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green of more than 90% of the flag represents the vast fields that Illinois is known for having, with the addition of a well known crop that boomed in this state and became paired with it, corn. The yellow stars to compliment it were added not just for that, but an homage to the US flag's many stars. This definitely doesn't look like any other country's flag don't look into it.



2868

Relationship to Illinois

I've spent my entire life in Illinois, growing up in Orland Park and experiencing city life in Chicago before settling back in the suburbs. My connection to the state runs deep*Illinois has shaped who I am. I appreciate the diversity of its landscapes and communities, from urban environments to rural prairies. This state is home, and I take great pride in its rich history and contributions to the nation.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents hope, growth, and looking toward the future. A single star symbolizes a goal to strive for, while dark and light yellow stripes reflect Illinois' agricultural roots and its identity as the Prairie State. The curved stripes also pay homage to President Obama's iconic "O" logo, subtly honoring our 44th president. The flag blends symbolism of progress, agricultural heritage, and a nod to President Obama, representing Illinois' strength and aspirations.

2869

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student, [REDACTED], here at Neuqua Valley High School and created this flag design in a Computer Graphics 2 class.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green of more than 90% of the flag represents the vast fields that Illinois is known for having, with the addition of a well known crop that boomed in this state and became paired with it, corn. The yellow stars to compliment it were added not just for that, but an homage to the US flag's many stars. This definitely doesn't look like any other country's flag don't look into it.

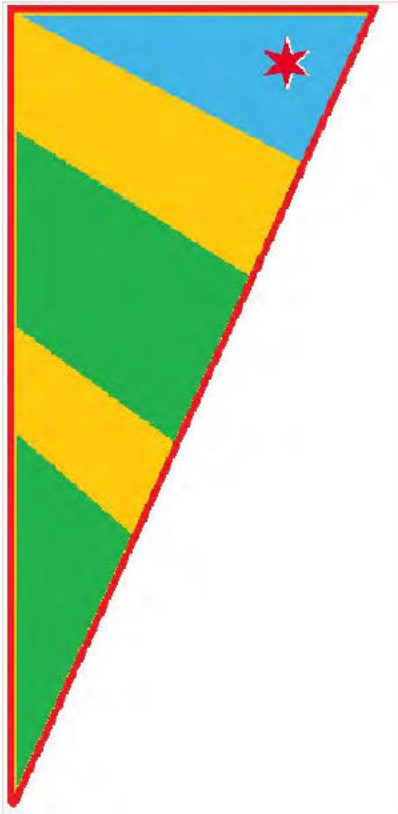
2870

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student, [REDACTED], here at Neuqua Valley High School and created this flag design in a Computer Graphics 2 class.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

With the state's main flag colors, this flag heavily draws inspiration from the many fields and one of it's major cities, Chicago. The integration of corn in the fields adds some needed detail to the blank space that the flag sports underneath, making it really feel like corn or other fields, with the subtle striped pattern not only looking like fields of crops, but also slightly casing a feel that this flag is connected to the US, matching it's stripped design.



2871

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chicago colors and start in the top, green and yellow for the farming and open areas and state parks. Red for the Cardinal the state bird and the long shape for the length of Illinois

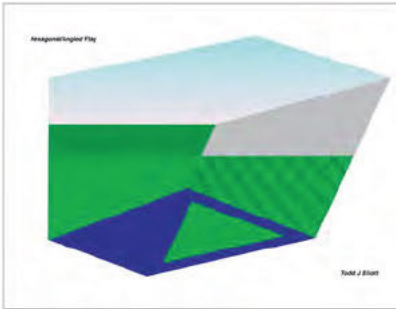
2872

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Champaign/Urbana, raised in Rockford, have a large family still in Galesburg. Mom and Dad still live in Illinois, my life and career is now in Oregon as an educator. I still travel home to see friends and loved ones. Chicago is where I learned most about art and design. My parents took us there to see art and amazing buildings. This is where my love of art and design began and even today, in my personal art, the plains of Illinois influences my work as a Horizon of Hope.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Hexagonal flag, natural way of being integral and give strength to its surroundings, the angled right side is progress. The sky is of ethereal and gradient colors, demonstrating change and hope. The sky is above quadrants of land containing the origin of natural habitats on the left with plains and tree line, then transforming into cultivated field (striped land) and architecture, industry and technology represented by grey on the right. The dark blue is lake on the left and rivers on right.



2873

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in IL. I live in Brookfield. I am a 3rd grader in Wheaton.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the state fish, the state bird, the state turtle, and state mineral. It says the state motto Land of Lincoln. It also has the white oak and state apple. There is also the state pie and state snack. It also includes the state pets the shelter cat and dog, state flower, and monarch butterfly. Lastly it includes the giant puffball and tiger salamander.



2874

Relationship to Illinois

I am a senior at Evanston Township Highschool and an Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

off center left: Violet, the Illinois state flower center: Goldrush Apple, the Illinois state fruit crest: white oak leaves, which is the Illinois state tree



2875



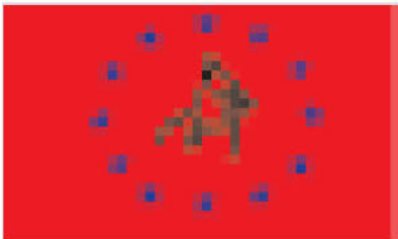
Relationship to Illinois

I am a US citizen and resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag Design #1: This design is a collage representing key features of Illinois. The image of people holding hands symbolizes a strong and diverse community, while the eagle represents strength and freedom. The violet, Illinois' state flower, is featured alongside green stripes and an image of corn, highlighting the state's rich farmlands and corn production.

2876



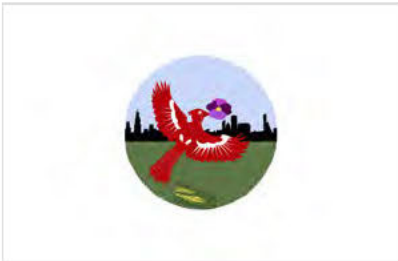
Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

cardinal to represent the state bird and stars to represent other cities in Illinois

2877



Relationship to Illinois

I am a US citizen and resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag Design #2: This design is a collage representing key features of Illinois. It includes the iconic Chicago skyline, the state bird cardinal, and the state flower-the violet. The design also incorporates the color green and an image of corn to emphasize Illinois' rich farmlands and agricultural production.

2878



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stars represent the state of Illinois and the main city, and I just did the main colors that we use in Illinois for the background and the stars as well.

2879

Relationship to Illinois

I am currently a resident of Cook County, Illinois. I was born in Illinois and have lived here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents prairies, for they are in Illinois's official nickname, while the blue represents the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The 20 stars represent the 20 states that came before Illinois, and the center 16-pointed star represents Illinois itself, with its colors representing a common Illinois crop: corn. The 16 points also represent Abe Lincoln, as he was the 16th president and an Illinois resident. Finally, the yellow backdrop represents Illinois's abundant corn fields.



2880

Relationship to Illinois

As a nurse from Utah, I found my calling in Illinois. What began as a temporary move became a decade-long journey of care and connection. Through my patients, I've experienced Illinois' diversity and love. The resilience and warmth of those I serve touch my heart daily. Illinois' healthcare innovation keeps me professionally fulfilled, while the Midwestern spirit has forged lasting bonds beyond hospital walls. This unexpected path has become my chosen home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design features the beak of a thunderbird, directly taken from an ancient drawing, symbolizing strength and heritage. The three seven-pointed stars represent Illinois' key historical eras and its status as the 21st state, with their arrangement in the shape of Illinois highlighting unity. Gold symbolizes prosperity and the richness of Illinois' agriculture, while white stands for unity and progress. Dark blue represents the state's waterways and stability.



2881



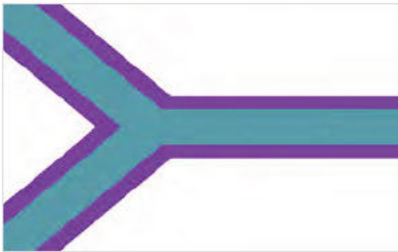
Relationship to Illinois

I am a senior at Evanston Township Highschool and an Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

off center left: Violet, the Illinois state flower
center: Goldrush Apple, the Illinois state fruit
crest: white oak leaves, which is the Illinois state tree

2882



Relationship to Illinois

I have studied flag design for 20 years. I frequently travel to Illinois for inspiration and to enjoy both it's natural beauty and it's strong civic identity. As someone who has long considered moving there, I tend to romanticize the state from the perspective of an outsider looking in with admiration.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Ratio is the Golden Ratio, which looks pleasing to the eye. The blue-green represents the waterways of Illinois, which have a unique color, and symbolizes the vitality and community that binds Illinois together. The violet represents the state flower, and thus symbolizes the natural splendor which grew from it and of the state's industry flourishing. The white base represents the White Oak that grows in Illinois, with white being a prominent feature of previous flags, including the present one.

2883



Relationship to Illinois

I am a senior at Evanston Township Highschool and an Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

off center left: Violet, the Illinois state flower
center: Goldrush Apple, the Illinois state fruit
crest: white oak leaves, which is the Illinois state tree

2884

Relationship to Illinois

As a nurse from Utah, I found my calling in Illinois. What began as a temporary move became a decade-long journey of care and connection. Through my patients, I've experienced Illinois' diversity and love. The resilience and warmth of those I serve touch my heart daily. Illinois' healthcare innovation keeps me professionally fulfilled, while the Midwestern spirit has forged lasting bonds beyond hospital walls. This unexpected path has become my chosen home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white oak leaf represents Illinois' state tree, known for its strength, resilience, and longevity*traits Illinois embodies. The wavy edges of the leaf symbolize the state's waterways. Lincoln green honors Illinois' historical legacy, while the blue reflects industry and Chicago. The white line signifies both the state's vital railways and the unity between its natural (green) and industrial (blue) landscapes.

2885

Relationship to Illinois

From student: My relationship to Illinois is that I am a student that lives in Chicago (Nicholas Senn Highschool) who wants to be successful in this journey of mine.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Star means illinois and the points of each star represents Each Big City for example Chicago, Aurora etc with their history for example Chicago with the great fire and the white stripes mean the Sky scrapers since the first one was built in Illinois and the Color of Navy blue means the Great Michigan lake while it also means Justice and perseverance. Red means Valor and bravery. White means purity and hope



2886

Relationship to Illinois

I have been born and raised in the greatest city in the world in the greatest state in the country! I lived away for five years for college, but then moved back to Illinois. I am proud to be from Illinois and have always felt, since I was a child, that we desperately need a new flag. Such a creative and impressive state as ours should not have the redundant and no-longer inspired state seal flag. I was beyond excited when I saw the state launch this process.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

While Illinois does not have official state colors, every Illinoisan knows they are orange and blue. The colors of UIUC and the Bears have become synonymous with our state on the whole. The Chicago star itself is the most iconic symbol of our state. I used the 'One Chicago' version of the Chicago Star instead of the original, because, to me, the red represents the inhabitants of Chicago and the suburbs, while the blue represents those living downstate, particularly along the Mississippi.

2887

Relationship to Illinois

I do not possess a relationship to Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag displays the Lincoln tomb and the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site. These two pictorials reference both the past, and the future, man and nature, and the ever changing nature of both. The colors used in my design are ones sourced from the original flag.



2888

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Winfield, Illinois. I moved to Michigan after marrying my wife but my heart is still in the land of Lincoln.



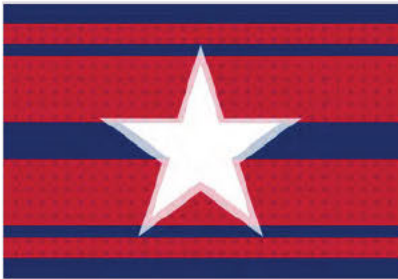
Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design features two bars with the state flower centered in the middle of it. The white is to pay homage to the current flag, while the blue represents the great waters of Illinois; Lake Michigan, The Illinois River, and the Mississippi River. The Yellow dot pays homage to the sunburst in the current flag. The Violet flower has been a symbol of humility, while the color represents nobility, which is fitting for the colossus that Illinois is to the Midwest.

2889

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, but I moved to Texas. and for my high school years i came back to Chicago



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose a simple yet meaningful design for the flag I created to represent my connection to Illinois. A single star at the flag's center symbolizes unity and peace. The star holds deep significance, representing my hope for togetherness and harmony, not just. Surrounding the star are 102 dots, a direct reference to the 102 counties that make up the state of Illinois. Each dot symbolizes one county, highlighting the state's geographical diversity while emphasizing the collective importance of ev

2890

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student living in Naperville, Illinois attending Neuqua Valley taking a computer graphics 1 class.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag holds the colors of Illinois: red, white, and blue; the flag has a blue stripe on the left side representing the Mississippi River, and a simplified eagle from the original flag.

2891



Relationship to Illinois

I am a student living in Naperville, Illinois attending Neuqua Valley taking a computer graphics 1 class.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents Illinois's geographics and environment. The blue triangle on the left represents the Mississippi west of our state, the yellow stripe represents the many prairies and crop fields, and the red star on the top right represents Chicago, one of the biggest cities in America and a gem of Illinois.

2892



Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised and still currently live in the fantastic state of Illinois. As the son of a 4th generation Illinois farmer, the rich soil of this state practically runs in my veins. It is a blessing to live somewhere that you can witness the strong agricultural foundation of a state at work along with having access to a truly world-class city such as Chicago, along with the hundreds of other vibrant communities and countless beautiful natural areas scattered across the landscape.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is inspired by Wallace Rice's centennial flag for IL. The green celebrates our agricultural roots & natural areas while the blue venerates our historic waterways. The arrangement of the stars into 4 tiers in the lower right honors Monks Mound, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In the center is a stylized cross section of a cob of sweet corn, our state vegetable, or field corn, of vast historical & economic importance. The six-pointed 21st star signifies the vibrancy of our towns & cities.

2893



Relationship to Illinois

none since I am an immigrant

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stars mean important events for the city, the bald eagle means the Country of the United States and the light blue color means the great Lake Michigan and the sky of the City.

2894

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student living in Naperville, Illinois attending Neuqua Valley taking a computer graphics 1 class.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue shape on the left side represents the Mississippi, west of Illinois, and the red star in the top right represents Chicago, of the most populated cities in America and a gem of our state. The star is the same as the four stars on the Chicago flag, one of the best city flags. The flag sports Illinois's state colors: red, white, and blue while still being different than America's exact colors.

2895

Relationship to Illinois

I am a senior at Evanston Township High School and a happy citizen of Illinois. I have lived here all of my life and it would be a great pleasure to send my recommendation for the new flag of my state.



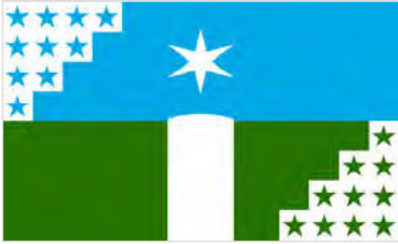
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green filling of the star represents the land fields that are known within Illinois. The red in the smaller star symbolizes sacrifice according to when slavery was rejected in 1824. The color yellow is to show signs of hope, especially during the BlackHawk War in 1832.

2896

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised and still currently live in the fantastic state of Illinois. As the son of a 4th generation Illinois farmer, the rich soil of this state practically runs in my veins. It is a blessing to live somewhere that you can witness the strong agricultural foundation of a state at work along with having access to a truly world-class city such as Chicago, along with the hundreds of other vibrant communities and countless beautiful natural areas scattered across the landscape.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is inspired by Wallace Rice's centennial flag for IL. The green celebrates our agricultural roots & protected natural areas. The 4 tiers in the lower right honor Monks Mound in Cahokia, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The tiers in the upper left depict the locks of the Illinois Waterway, while the blue venerates all our waterways. The rectangle honors the first skyscraper & all that we've built. The large 21st star represents the people of IL. Together, they form an "i" for Illinois.

2897

Relationship to Illinois

I am a life-long resident of Illinois. I was born in Harvey at Ingalls Hospital and grew up in Peotone. After graduating high school at Lincoln-Way Central, I studied first at Joliet Junior College and completed my Bachelors at Illinois State University. I attended Dominican University in River Forest and received my masters degree in Library and Information Science. I have been a practicing children's librarian in Lisle, IL for 13 years. Most importantly I am the proud father of 3 .



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The large light blue bar at the bottom of the flag represents Lake Michigan, while the two smaller light blue bars represent the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The three dark blue bars represent President Lincoln, President Grant, and General Logan and their leadership in the Civil War. The Yellow sun is composed of Corn cob rays and represents the grain belt. The top white half of the flag represents the peace. The red star in the upper right corner represents Chicago.



2898

Relationship to Illinois

citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Shows the stars of the flag

2899

Relationship to Illinois

My family had moved to Illinois when I was 8 years old after my father retired from the Air Force. After high school, I chose to attend a state university and continue to teach in the state. I have grown to love Illinois as a historic state for a multitude of reasons, including being the rich history that this state holds.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun rising over the green of Cahokia mounds shows a promise to a new future while remembering the past. The sun has 18 beams represent year Illinois was founded, 1818. Laid upon the green field of Cahokia are 21 white stars. These stars represent Illinois as the 21st state to enter the Union. The blue at the bottom of the field represents the many bodies of water that have helped Illinois thrive throughout the past, Mississippi River, Ohio River, Wabash River, and Lake Michigan.



2900

Relationship to Illinois

resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Yellow represents the sun and the things we grow and plant. Blue represents the two bodies of water bordering us: the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. Green means the green plains and prairies in Illinois. I chose the red bird to represent the state bird, the red cardinal. The birds are also representative of the people coming together and loving each other. The leaves are leaves from the state tree, the white oak tree. I choose 3 leaves for each part of Illinois north, south, central



2901

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in a North Shore suburb, I've lived in several towns throughout Lake County. I am currently settled in the far northeast corner of the state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Mississippi River to west, Lake Michigan to east represented by dark blue bars.

Grass designs pay homage to nickname of The Prairie State. Green bands represent farm fields throughout state. Light blue depicts wide-open skies in central, southern portions of state. 21 stars represent IL being 21st state in union, circle offers unity/wholeness amongst our diversity. Blue spoke theme in center of stars pays tribute to Ferris Wheel and Schwinn bicycles, both introduced in Chicago in the 1890s.

2902

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois, I've spent nearly my entire life in the state of Illinois (Will & Cook counties). As a Chicago resident and flag enthusiast, I always thought the state of Illinois deserved a flag that Illinoisans could be as proud of as Chicagoans are of the ubiquitous Chicago flag, but inclusive to the identity of the entire state, its people and its history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue: Bodies of water that define the history & character of IL. Green: IL's Prairies & the important role of agriculture. White center path: IL's role as a hub of transportation. Center: A sunburst (nod to the current flag)/stylized Butterfly Milkweed flower (nod to the state wildflower & insect) with 20 rays/petals and a 21st rising, symbol of the 21st state & IL as a guiding light in civil rights. Together an IL sunrise, symbol of the never-ending pursuit of progress & a better tomorrow.

2903

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is home. I'm proud to be born and raised here. I attended DePaul University and now work at Northwestern University as a Graphic Designer. I also worked at Lincoln Park Zoo, creating banners proudly displayed every year. Illinois is a beautiful melding of people, goals, and ideologies. I see Illinois as the intersection of America*industrially, culturally and even geographically. As a woman of color and a proud Illinoisan I long for a flag that unites all of us, just as this state does.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow is our golden prairie, and the two blues honor Lake Michigan and the mighty Mississippi river. On the right are 20 stars, with the large red star as the 21st to represent us as the 21st state. The red star represents our strong workforce, railroad industry, and our continual pursuit of progress. The small stars also honor our bountiful fields of agriculture. The white stripe pays homage to the original flag, and the flowing lines represent the movement, growth, and future of Illinois.

2904

Relationship to Illinois

Student

Explain the meaning behind your flag

key symbols and colors that represent the state's identity. I primarily used the color blue to symbolize Lake Michigan, one of the five Great Lakes of North America. Lake Michigan is not only a significant natural feature of Illinois, but it is also the second-largest of the Great Lakes by volume and the third-largest by surface area. Its deep blue waters represent Illinois' rich connection to the lake, which plays an essential role in the state's economy, transportation, and overall identity.



2905

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in a North Shore suburb, I've lived in several towns throughout Lake County. I am currently settled in the far northeast corner of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Mississippi River depicted in blue by state outline on left. Grass image pays homage to Prairie State nickname. Green bands represent farm fields throughout state. Light blue is the wide-open skies found in central, southern parts of state. Circle of 20 stars +1 in middle represents IL being 21st state to join union, offers unity/wholeness amongst our diversity. Partial spoke theme in center of stars pays tribute to Ferris Wheel and Schwinn bicycles, both introduced in Chicago in the 1890s.



2906

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is home. I'm proud to be born and raised here. I attended DePaul University and now work at Northwestern University as a Graphic Designer. I also worked at Lincoln Park Zoo, creating banners proudly displayed every year. Illinois is a beautiful melding of people, goals, and ideologies. I see Illinois as the intersection of America*industrially, culturally and even geographically. As a woman of color and a proud Illinoisan I long for a flag that unites all of us, just as this state does.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red seal has 21 points, symbolizing Illinois as the 21st state. Red represents our strong workforce and railroad industry. The triangular edge reflects native imagery from the state's Indigenous tribes and the Cahokia Mounds. The white star is our state sovereignty in the National Union. Yellow is our golden prairie and two blues honor Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The white stripe honors to the original flag and flowing lines represent the movement, growth and future of Illinois.



2907

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in a North Shore suburb, I've lived in several towns throughout Lake County. I am currently settled in the far northeast corner of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Dark blue block represents Mississippi River to the west, block of light blue represents Lake Michigan to the east. Green bands across center represent farm fields found throughout the state. Grass image pays homage to IL's nickname of The Prairie State. A circle of 20 stars +1 in middle represents IL being the 21st state to join the union. The stars, offering unity and wholeness amongst our diversity, are outlined with the colors found in the flag design.



2908

Relationship to Illinois

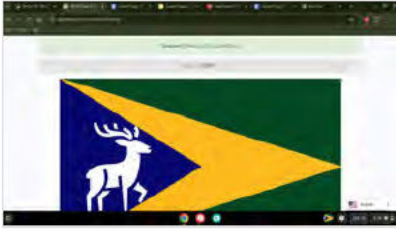
Illinois is home. I'm proud to be born and raised here. I attended DePaul University and now work at Northwestern University as a Graphic Designer. I also worked at Lincoln Park Zoo, creating banners proudly displayed every year. Illinois is a beautiful melding of people, goals, and ideologies. I see Illinois as the intersection of America*industrially, culturally and even geographically. As a woman of color and a proud Illinoisan I long for a flag that unites all of us, just as this state does.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red seal has 21 points, symbolizing Illinois as the 21st state. Red represents our strong workforce and railroad industry. The triangular edge also reflects native imagery from the state's Indigenous tribes and the Cahokia Mounds. The yellow circle signifies our agriculturally rich golden prairie and the blue stripe honors Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The white, blue and white sections represent the state's 3 regions. The prominent white pays homage to the original Illinois flag.



2909



Relationship to Illinois

Im a resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors split the flag into 3 parts the yellow means crops and corn green means the great plains and blue represents the lake and water the deer is Illinois state animal

2910



Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 1988. I have worked as an illustration and design instructor at Columbia College Chicago for 36 years. You can review my work at [REDACTED]

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design represents the Prairie State, evoking to the vast blue sky, distant horizon, green and yellow fields and the bounding waters of the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. This flag design also represents the state motto "state sovereignty and national union" with a large white star in the center of the state map representing state sovereignty, and the horizontal bars of blue, green and yellow extending eastward and westward beyond Illinois representing national union.

2911



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lines represent the Illinois and Mississippi river colliding and carrying on through Illinois. Light blue- tranquility, understanding, and softness. Dark blue- knowledge, seriousness. Yellow - Happiness, Energy

2912

Relationship to Illinois

I am a life-long resident of Illinois. I was born in Harvey at Ingalls Hospital and grew up in Peotone. After graduating high school at Lincoln-Way Central, I studied first at Joliet Junior College and completed my Bachelors at Illinois State University. I attended Dominican University in River Forest and received my masters degree in Library and Information Science. I have been a practicing children's librarian in Lisle, IL for 13 years. Most importantly I am the proud father of 3 .



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three gold bars represent the three regions of Illinois from north to south and their agricultural output. The dark blue chevron represents the Mississippi and Illinois rivers. The light blue triangle represents Lake Michigan. The red star represents President Lincoln and his sacrifice in settling the Civil War.

2913

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] and I have lived in Illinois for eight years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

First of all I have a deer with a sash and on the sash is the state motto. I chose a deer to be holding the state motto because the white tailed deer is the Illinois state animal. The sun has twenty stars on it because Illinois is the twenty-first state. There is a corn field because Illinois is one of the top corn producing states in U.S. The two pieces of corn have dates on them one is 1818 and the other is 2025. I



2914

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student in Illinois learning about Illinois history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the ferris wheel because it represents the World Fair that was held in Chicago. I chose the 50 stars because there are 50 states in our country. I included two skyscrapers to represent the Willis Tower in Chicago. I chose red for the Chicago Fire, and blue for the lakes.



2915



Relationship to Illinois

My name is [redacted] and I have lived in Illinois my entire life of ten years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is about all kinds of things, and you will find them in this story. All of these things represent Illinois. The cardinal, the white-tailed deer, the violet, the monarch butterfly and corn. I also free handed and drew the state of Illinois and cut it out for the center of my flag.

2916



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 3rd grade student living in Illinois learning about IL history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cardinal is the state bird, the fire explains the Chicago Fire, the house is the state capitol building in Springfield, the flag is the United States flag, and I included Abraham Lincoln because he was from Illinois and was our 16th president.

2917



Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has forever been my family's home in America. My great-great grandparents moved to Springfield in the late 1800s and my family remains there today. I was born and raised in our state's capital, then attended the University of Illinois for an education in design. I'm now a proud husband and Dad to two girls, and I'm also an architect. Combining my passions for design and my home state has been a joy. My designs define what Illinois means to me and what I feel can symbolize all of us.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The prairie sunrise is an iconic view across Illinois and honors our state's nickname. The sun bursts with 18 white lines and 18 blue shapes to honor the year we became a state. Its central position represents our history as a hub in the middle of America. The radiating design symbolizes our optimism and a unified vision across our communities. The star symbolizes Chicago and its industrial might. Blue represents our tradition and Midwestern spirit. White represents light and our bright future.

2918

Relationship to Illinois

My family immigrated to the *SA 3 years ago. I am a student at Nicholas Senn High School, in Chicago Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue color of the leaves symbolizes the peace of the state with the reputation of being one of the most livable states in America. Yellow speaks to the state's diversity and creativity in its diverse communities and rich cities with tall buildings. The white circle symbolizes the purity and newness of the new flag. The blue star image within the white circle represents the new freedom of the state in the modern era. The three stars represent the three main geographical areas of Illinois.



2919

Relationship to Illinois

Good

Explain the meaning behind your flag

YELLOW: It represents the richness and abundance of our fertile soil and the minerals it contains. WHITE: symbolizes freedom and purity. BLACK: symbolizes freedom and purity. EAGLE: strength, power, dominance over others, the warrior character, aggressiveness and bravery.



2920

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and thought the opportunity to create the state flag was cool

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and orange represents the Chicago Bears and in the middle it is the outline of the state. The star represents Chicago and the state as a whole. (The orange is supposed to be the same color)



2921



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in central Illinois, I also got both of my degrees from Illinois State University.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The vertical lines represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, while the horizontal line represents the Illinois River. When hung vertically, these lines form a letter "I" for Illinois. The yellow background is the color of corn, and represents agriculture. The 21 stars represent Illinois as the 21st state to join the union.

2922



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two joining lines (blue) represent Lake Michigan and Mississippi River, which are important bodies of water located around Illinois. The triangle between the blue lines represents the corn fields found throughout Illinois. The color white represents peace. And finally the sun that is located on the right side of the flag because significance as a symbol of hope, renewal, and divinity.

2923



Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois for 21 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is an agricultural community, so the tractor represents agriculture. The skyline in the background represents the bigger cities (who are important as well) like Chicago. The flag represents the American Homeland.



2924

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Evanston Illinois for 10 years and am currently a middle school student.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The navy blue and orange represent the official state colors and the violet is the state flower.



2925

Relationship to Illinois

raised in Plainfield then Aurora where my sister was born then finally chicago where two of my brothers and younger sister were born and have lived in Chicago for a little over seven years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors are homage to the potawatomi tribes that took up majority of illinois before colonization and the stag head is because are state animal is a white tailed deer



2926

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life, first in Bolingbrook, then in Champaign, Lisle, and now in Chicago, where I work as a graphic designer (with a longtime interest in flag design).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The wavy blue section represents the winding Mississippi River in the west. The yellow field symbolizes our state's corn, prairie grass, and vast farmland. The red star represents our largest urban and suburban population center in the northeast, while also serving as a nod to our individual star on the U.S. flag, signifying our admission to the union. This design aims to be striking, unique, and adaptable for a variety of applications.

2927

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life, first in Bolingbrook, then in Champaign, Lisle, and now in Chicago, where I work as a graphic designer (with a longtime interest in flag design).



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green and blue checkerboard symbolizes our gridded farmland and the waterways that run through them, while yellow highlights our iconic corn and prairie grass. The star, a nod to our individual star on the U.S. flag, represents our admission to the union. When hung vertically, the star and yellow section sit in the northeast corner, mirroring the location of our largest urban and suburban population center. This design aims to be striking, unique, and adaptable for a variety of applications.

2928

Relationship to Illinois

Teacher



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue and orange both symbolize the state of Illinois orange reflecting the sunrise over the blue skies of the Midwest. Blue embodies authority and strength, with navy in particular signifying loyalty and integrity while orange evokes creativity, determination and success. White meaning purity.

2929

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life, first in Bolingbrook, then in Champaign, Lisle, and now in Chicago, where I work as a graphic designer (with a longtime interest in flag design).



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag depicts what is perhaps Illinois's most significant historical site: The Cahokia Mounds. In terms of colors, the green represents our farmlands, the blue is for our waterways, and the yellow highlights our iconic corn and prairie grass. The star, a nod to our individual star on the U.S. flag, represents our admission to the union. When hung vertically, the star sits in the northeast corner, mirroring the location of our largest urban and suburban population center.

2930

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has forever been my family's home in America. My great-great grandparents moved to Springfield in the late 1800s and my family remains there today. I was born and raised in our state's capital, then attended the University of Illinois for an education in design. I'm now a proud husband and Dad to two girls, and I'm also an architect. Combining my passions for design and my home state has been a joy. My designs define what Illinois means to me and what I feel can symbolize all of us.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The intersecting design symbolizes the unity of all communities across Illinois. The yellow circle in the blue diamond represents the prairie sun in the sky as a vision we all have in common. The yellow stripes represent our farmland across the state and our history as an agricultural champion. The four blue stripes honor the Mississippi, Ohio, Wabash and Illinois Rivers. The five-pointed blue star honors Lake Michigan as one of the five Great Lakes. White celebrates our current flag's color.

2931

Relationship to Illinois

I was originally born in Arkansas but moved to Chicago, Illinois, when I was around 4 years old. I moved to Illinois with my mother because she wanted to provide me with a better education compared to the few schools in Arkansas. Over the next few years, I grew up specifically in Chicago and continued my education in the North side. Living in Illinois with my mother helped us live a better life by reuniting with family that lived here as well, and the community that welcomed us in.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The color yellow represents the corn fields that are found in Illinois. The corn fields make up a lot of the Illinois state. The color blue represents the many significant bodies of water that reside in or near Illinois. Such as Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, the Chicago River, etc. The red star that is in the middle of the flag represents the stars that are found on the Chicago Flag. It is a great way to involve one of the most important cities especially in Illinois on the flag.

2932

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois for Thirteen years I have lived not only in the rural parts of Illinois but the city as well. All of my education has been through schools in Illinois and I felt very connected to this state. I wanted to use this opportunity to not only show my passion for graphic design and illustrate the state of Illinois through my eyes as well as express my favourite parts



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In this flag design I wanted to incorporate not only a symbolic color scheme but also a symbolic element. I used the light shade of blue in the stripes to represent the great lakes and water that we have in our state. The stripes are vertical to represent the eastern and western borders. I used a deep green to represent the native plants that Illinois proudly has well as the prairies. I used corn as a symbol of agriculture and farming which is a major part of our state.

2933

Relationship to Illinois

Resident and high school student in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose dark and light blue to represent the copious bodies of fresh water we have in Illinois, most specifically Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. Green represents the grass and farms all through Illinois and the yellow represents the prairies in southern Illinois. The 21 stars in the middle represents that we were the 21st state to join the union and the horizontal lines mimic the extensive amount of cornfields and grasses you see when driving through downstate.



2934

Relationship to Illinois

Resident and high school student

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose dark and light blue to represent the copious bodies of fresh water we have in Illinois, most specifically Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. Green represents the grass and farms all through Illinois and the yellow represents the prairies in southern Illinois. The 21 stars in the middle represents that we were the 21st state to join the union and the horizontal lines mimic the extensive amount of cornfields and grasses you see when driving through downstate.



2935

Relationship to Illinois

My ancestry hails from the Midwest * my mother being from Kansas, and my father from Indiana. I was raised in Kankakee County, educated in Champaign County, began my career in DuPage County, and now live as a designer in Cook County.

Illinois is my history, my blood, and my life. I've always lived here. I wish for this great and beautiful state to be seen as the beacon of progress and natural wonder it is. I want its people to be seen and honored, and for its symbol to stand the test of time.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design balances vexillology rules, current flag references, modern design, and usability. It uses state vs federal symbols in ways all Illinoisians recognize. It omits politics or controversy. It also focuses on usability for easy replacement. Elements include: White oak tree (Growth/Strength/Natural beauty), Rising sun (Prosperity/Opportunity), Stars (State motto), Green (Upper/Lower state), Blue (Mississippi River/Lake Michigan), Yellow (Prairie land/State nickname), Red (Valor/Bravery).



2936

Relationship to Illinois

I like Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue triangles and strip of green represent the land of Illinois between its two bodies of water, Lake Michigan and the Mississippi. The green is also used for the nature that Illinois has and the big corn fields. In the middle of the flag there is a big red Cardinal bird which is a state bird. The cardinal looks right where the sun rises in IL. It's looking a little like an eagle too, referring to the old flag of Illinois.



2937

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has forever been my family's home in America. My great-great grandparents moved to Springfield in the late 1800s and my family remains there today. I was born and raised in our state's capital, then attended the University of Illinois for an education in design. I'm now a proud husband and Dad to two girls, and I'm also an architect. Combining my passions for design and my home state has been a joy. My designs define what Illinois means to me and what I feel can symbolize all of us.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white-tailed deer is an iconic symbol across Illinois and represents our beauty. Its upward leap towards light symbolizes our optimism and forward-thinking. The 21 stars honor our statehood as the 21st to join the USA. The circle symbolizes unity across our diverse communities. The enlarged star represents Chicago and its geographic location. Gold represents our history as an agricultural champion. Blue represents our tradition and Midwestern spirit. White represents light and positivity.

2938

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Gurnee, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

-Honors state flower: common blue violet, represents IL's fertile prairies-16pt star = innovation; green leaves also look like outward pointing arrows = IL's growth in innovation & agriculture-5pt leading at the front: IL's leadership in the nation (eg Abolitionism). With 16pt star, it totals 21 = IL is 21st state-Gold = the prairies ("the Prairie State"), blue = the rivers and lakes-Gold X = intersection of major transportation routes (railroads+highways), and Illinois+Mississippi rivers



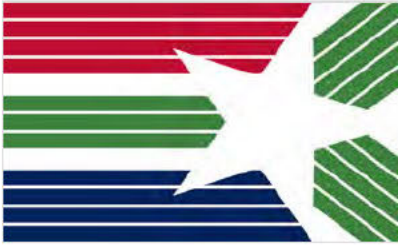
2939

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life in a part of it commonly referred to as Forgottonia. My hope if chosen is to help this wonderful part of our state be less forgettable. Every Illinoisan deserves to be proud of this state and it's people!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has 21 stripes symbolizing IL being the 21st state in the USA. It draws inspiration from the red, white, and blue of America, but firmly has green to represent the rows and rows of fertile soil we live on and feed the world with. A slanted star is to show forward momentum into the future for the whole state. Thank you!



2940

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since 2001, moving to Chicago from my hometown of Raleigh, NC. You don't get to choose where you are born, but you can choose where you live, and I chose Illinois as soon as I was old (and wise) enough to move to a vibrant and energetic city. Plus my dad grew up in Rogers Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has 3 horizontal bands of color (white is a color, right) interrupted by a yellow circle. The green band at bottom represents agriculture (both pre-columbian and modern commercial), the break between green and blue is the ever present horizon, the blue band represents water (Mississippi River and Lake Michigan) and sky. The yellow circle represents the sun and moon, both rising and setting. All set on a white background.



2941

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life in a part of it commonly referred to as Forgottonia. My hope if chosen is to help this wonderful part of our state be less forgettable. Every Illinoisan deserves to be proud of this state and it's people!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has 21 points total on its 3 stars symbolizing IL being the 21st state in the USA. The 7 pointed stars also are a nod to the famous Chicago flag and the impact that wonderful city has on our state and the world. It draws inspiration from the red, white, and blue of America. The typeface is called Industry and is a powerful reminder of the many industries that make their home here. The lines cut through the typeface represent the differences we face, but together we are stronger.



2942

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life in a part of it commonly referred to as Forgottonia. My hope if chosen is to help this wonderful part of our state be less forgettable. Every Illinoisan deserves to be proud of this state and it's people!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has 21 points total on its 3 stars symbolizing IL being the 21st state in the USA. It is in lowercase to be future forward. The typeface is called Gelica and it's "I's" have been replaced by the 7 pointed stars which are also a nod to the famous Chicago flag and the impact that wonderful city has on our state and the world. It draws inspiration from the red, white, and blue of America. The lines cut through the typeface represent the differences we face, but together we are stronger.



2943

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the blue is to represent the pierre, the yellow is to represent the sun, and the three stars are to include puerto rico, guam, and illinois. (illinois already has one.)



2944

Relationship to Illinois

My ancestry hails from the Midwest * my mother being from Kansas, and my father from Indiana. I was raised in Kankakee County, educated in Champaign County, began my career in DuPage County, and now live as a designer in Cook County.

Illinois is my history, my blood and my life. I've always lived here. I wish for this great and beautiful state to be seen as the beacon of progress and natural wonder it is. I want its people to be seen and honored, and for its symbol to stand the test of time.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design balances vexillology rules, current flag references, modern design, and usability. It focuses on state over federal symbols. It omits politics or controversy. It also focuses on usability for easy replacement of the current flag. The white oak (state tree) is the central symbol, representing growth, strength, and Illinois' natural beauty. 21 stars represent the 21st state. 13 differently-colored stars reference the 13 colonies and state motto of state sovereignty, but in union.



2945

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and I have lived here all my life. I have gone to school, worked and grown up all in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue border on the flag represents how our state is surrounded by water. The deep navy blue background expresses the power and togetherness of our state. The wheat pattern running down the middle of the flag shows how agriculture is the backbone of our state. The Bean in the middle is a very recognizable symbol for the city of Chicago and the state. The 5 stars represent manufacturing, agriculture, finance, healthcare and transportation, the 5 largest economic sectors in Illinois.





2946

Relationship to Illinois

Student

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blues are the lake shore, the star is for Chicago and the oval pattern is meant to look like wheat for the rest of the state's crop farming.



2947

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life, I love Illinois because of the people, beaches, and the amount of activities that Illinois has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red represents passion and the orange which looks like a sun is meant to be fun, and the blue represents freshness because Illinois air smells so fresh and especially in the fall because it smells so fresh.



2948

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] and my relation to Illinois is I have lived here my whole life of ten years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

When it came to designing my flag, I knew that I wanted to incorporate the many signs of the state of Illinois. I was excited to add the butterfly on the white-tailed deer's nose because they both come to mind. Adding in the cardinal along with the leaves were also great signs of our state.

2949

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago after discharging from active duty in 1994 (US Army) and served in the Illinois NG when I arrived. Attended UIC (BFA in Studio Arts, 1999). I've lived all over the South/Southwest side of Chicago the past 30 years: in Pilsen, Hyde Park, Bridgeport and currently in the Beverly neighborhood. And I've always thought we could have a better flag design than we do here, so when the contest was announced I was thrilled to have chance to give it a try.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I sketched several ideas and in the end decided that keeping the symbolism simple, and trying to not radically rethink the color scheme (hence the white field) was key. The three blue stripes represent the three rivers that border Illinois: Mississippi, Ohio and Wabash. The blue quarter circle in the right corner is a geographic nod to Lake Michigan. The grain symbol represents the agriculture that dominates our state and is meant to subtly suggest a fleur de lis of the early French settlers.

2950

Relationship to Illinois

Hi my name is Braxton and I live in Illinois and, all my family lives in Illinois or in neighboring states also, I'm a part of the Schoon family. I wanted to make a state flag of Illinois so I can represent the state of Illinois and its culture.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has an eagle on the front holding an American flag that has the dates of 1818, and 2025. It also has a cardinal and a white-tailed deer to represent the state bird and the state mammal. Finally my flag has a hill and a grassy plain in the background because Illinois has lots of hills and open fields. In conclusion those were my flag design and my family in Illinois.

2951



Relationship to Illinois

My sister-in-law grew up here and my brother has lived here for 15+ years. I will have been here for 2 years this November from Long Island, NY

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission 1 of 3The colors are what I saw the other day while riding my motorcycle and looking out at the landscape: green grass then tan/gold field leading up to a blue sky. The 21 stars are for Illinois being the 21st state.

2952



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a transplant from Long Island, NY coming up on 2 years this November. My brother and sister-in-law live here, her having grown up here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission 2 of 3The colors are what I saw the other day while riding my motorcycle and looking out at the landscape: green and tan/gold field leading up to a blue sky. The 21 stars are for Illinois being the 21st state. Different flag design from my previous entry that is just horizontal stripes, same colors.

2953



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state of Illinois for all 22 years of my life. I was born in Naperville, and have lived in the suburb of Wheaton for my entire childhood, and temporarily lived in Chicago for school. I have always felt extremely passionate and patriotic about my state and its culture.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's sections represent its chronological history. The blue band on the left represents the mighty Mississippi River. The middle shape represents Southern Illinois, the orange representing the beauty of the orange prairies illuminated by the morning sun. The blue shape on the right is Northern Illinois, dominated by mighty waters like Lake Michigan and the Illinois River with Chicago's iconic six-pointed star in the top right, the white representing the city's bright lights.

2954



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a transplant from Long Island, NY coming up on 2 years this November. My brother and sister-in-law live here, her having grown up here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Submission 3 of 3 Colors of grass, farm fields, and sky with a heraldic-style deer being the state animal in the center.

2955



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago after graduating college. I had visited a friend in Chicago a couple times during college and fell in love with the city and the surrounding areas outside Chicago. Illinois also has a rich history as a state and I hope that this design reflects that.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white field is an homage to the current IL flag. 20 stars occupy sky blue triangles on the hoist and fly ends as IL has 2 great bodies of water to its east and west: Lake Michigan and the Mississippi. This grouping was inspired by the Centennial IL flag as was the color for the shield (homage to IL state seal) in the center. The last star is the 21st (same as IL) and is a Chicago star due to the city's cultural significance. The central red stripe is an homage to the state seal banner.



2956

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois resident and student.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the white tailed deer. I did this because it is the state animal.



2957

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Illinois resident and student.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made a flag landscape of many of the state things combined.

2958

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and even attended the University of Illinois for my baccalaureate and two masters degrees. I have also spent the majority of my working career in the state, including the last 28 years at a local township library.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green and gold colors are representative of Illinois' rich agricultural history. The 21 stars around the state indicate it was the 21st state admitted to the union (as does the 1818 date). The circle around the state creates a wheel that is both symbolic of tractor wheels as part of our state's agriculture but, simultaneously creates a modern image of cars and interstate roadways. And, of course, we are well-known as the "Land of Lincoln," so the president also figures prominently.



2959

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for my whole life. I often travel outside of the state, and sometimes even outside of the country, and while I do enjoy the other places that I travel to and visit, There's nowhere that I would rather live than Illinois. My Dad grew up in the city, while my Mom grew up on a farm. I want to make a flag that would appeal to people all over the state, regardless of if they are from a rural or urban area.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow embodies Illinois's prairies. The blue lines represent Lake Michigan (top), the Mississippi, Ohio & Wabash Rivers (bottom) & the Illinois River bisecting the flag, like how it bisects the state, subtly making an I shape. Agriculturally, Illinois make the most pumpkins nationally (40%). Around the pumpkin are 12 Big Bluestems. Each embodies a tribe of the Illini the state is named after. Each stem splits into 3 racemes, making 18 on each side, referencing statehood in 1818.

2960

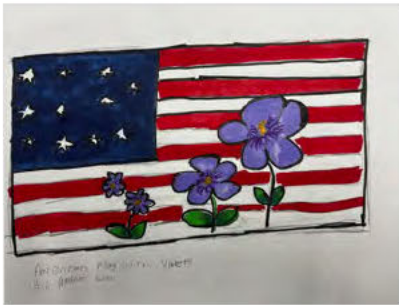
Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] and I was born in Florida. Both my parents have lived in Illinois and always wanted to move back. I am now 10, but when I was 5 years old, we moved back. I'll never forget driving into Illinois and being so excited. I love this state and enjoy the different seasons and the beautiful land. I have family here and it feels good to call Illinois home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my flag I wanted to incorporate some of Illinois state symbols - the cardinal, monarch butterfly and blue violet. I paid tribute to Abraham Lincoln who represented Illinois with "Land of Lincoln." I noted the date Illinois was founded along with the current year this flag was made. I put 21 stars because Illinois was the 21st state into the Union. I added greenery to show how beautiful Illinois is.



2961

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident and student of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made the USA flag with our state flower.

2962

Relationship to Illinois

Relation to Illinois. Looking at the flag. When I meet someone new they asks if I am a Chicagoan, I say what do you mean, and they reply were you born and raised in Chicago. I say I have lived here for 40 years but I was not born In Chicago. Most say that's good enough for me. My goal when looking at the flag: Too see that Illinois is a huge melting pot of different people that can be friends.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Explain. Reasoning Behind the flag. My flag. has three colors. The blue is the backgound. It stands for. Agriculture and Industry. The red line represents the water. We have the Mississippi on the left and the Lake Michigan on the right. This is our most important commodity and must be protected. Green represents the people of Illinois. So when all this comes together, we have a very simplistic view of my simplistic flag.



2963

Relationship to Illinois



This design is being submitted on behalf of my son, [REDACTED], as part of his 3rd Grade class project at The Avery Connley School in Downers Grove, IL (his teachers are Katie Baldwin and Abby Spiwak). Our family are all longtime IL residents - [REDACTED] was born in Illinois, his mother (my wife) was born in Illinois, and I have been an Illinois resident since 1997. Also, my wife and I each have Bachelors and Masters degrees from IL universities.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green background and black wheat image represent Illinois as the "Prairie State." The cardinal is for the state bird of Illinois. The quarter circle of blue represents science, and the red ring suggests the World's Fair of 1893.

2964

Relationship to Illinois



Derek Larsen's roots are in Belvidere, Illinois, a town known for its murals and close-knit community. Growing up there, he developed a deep appreciation for art, local heritage, and the unique landscapes of Illinois. This love for his home state led him to the University of Illinois, where he studied architecture and design, embracing the state's rich architectural history. Derek's passion for design continues to grow as he explores Illinois, cherishing its blend of small-town charm, urban energy.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The "Prairie Star" flag design for Illinois features a vibrant blue background symbolizing the state's waterways, with a central eight-pointed star in yellow and white. The star has arrows pointing inward, representing Illinois as the "Middle of Everything." A white horizontal band divides the blue fields, signifying unity and hope. This modern design reflects Illinois's agricultural heritage and its aspirations, capturing the essence of the "Prairie State" in a bold and meaningful way.

2965

Relationship to Illinois

Derek Larsen's roots are in Belvidere, Illinois, a town known for its murals and close-knit community. Growing up there, he developed a deep appreciation for art, local heritage, and the unique landscapes of Illinois. This love for his home state led him to the University of Illinois, where he studied architecture and design, embracing the state's rich architectural history. Derek's passion for design continues to grow as he explores Illinois, cherishing its blend of small-town charm, urban energy.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

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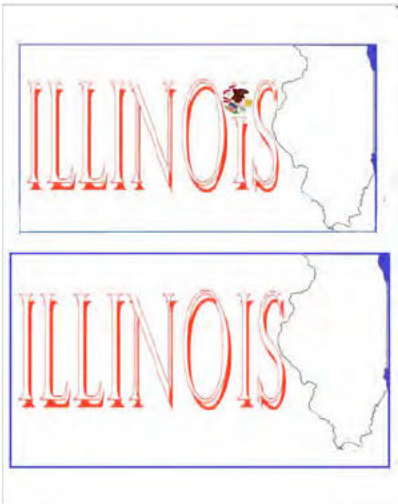
2966

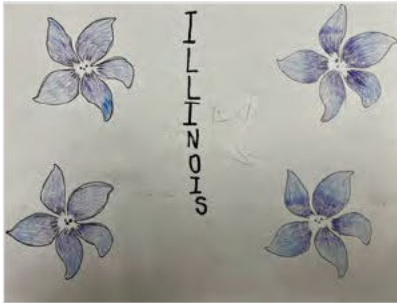
Relationship to Illinois

I live here, since 2002

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is straightforward. Bordered mostly by water, blue--Lake Michigan, Rivers, Ohio, Mississippi--may render in blue. Lettering is bold--to the point, and proud. One version dots the "I" with the state seal. Color scheme copies the Stars and Stripes of the USA. Illinois makes it's mark, though a complex entity, the entire state is identified visually, whole and larger than any one segment or interest. Not obscured by symbolisms that need describing. It's ILLINOIS obviously. No questions to it.





2967

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident and student.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew our state flower for the flag.



2968

Relationship to Illinois

Born & raised in northern Illinois, living in Chicago since 1996. I have a lot of state & city pride.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chicago-centric, using the Chicago flag 'star' as a base shape and bringing in colors from the existing Illinois state flag... representing prairie, fields, waterways, sun & corn.



2969

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived my entire life of 41 years in Illinois. The first 18 were surrounded by farmland, outside of city limits in rural Ogle County. Then I went to college where lived in the suburbs and ultimately ended up in Chicago for the past 17 years. There is no other state I would rather live in and call my home. I have immense pride in Illinois because of our future, history and diversity. From Chicago to Cahokia to Cairo and all the towns, prairies, cornfields and forests in-between.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The letter "I" will be memorable for Illinois. It also forms opening doors in the negative space, showing our openness as a state to welcome all into our bright future. Using white is also a nod to the current flag. Blue represents our rivers and lakes and the feeling of stability and wisdom. The 3 stars have 6, 7 & 8 points. Adding up to 21 for the 21st state. 6-point star for Chicago, 7 for suburbs and 8 for rural, which expresses our diversity. They are amber for our agriculture and prairies.

2970



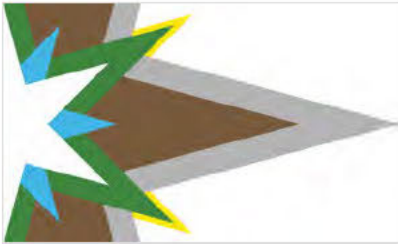
Relationship to Illinois

Born & raised in northern Illinois, living in Chicago since 1996. I have a lot of state & city pride.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chicago-centric, using the Chicago flag 'star' as a base shape and bringing in colors from the existing Illinois state flag... representing prairie, fields, waterways, sun & corn.

2971



Relationship to Illinois

Born & raised in northern Illinois, living in Chicago since 1996. I have a lot of state & city pride.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chicago-centric, using the Chicago flag 'star' as a base shape and bringing in colors from the existing Illinois state flag... representing prairie, fields, waterways, sun & corn.

2972



Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is rooted in personal and cultural history. Born in Chicago to immigrants, I embody diverse traditions. My family's long presence here reflects our commitment to community and resilience. I appreciate Illinois for its vibrant urban life and natural beauty. However, I feel a strong need for greater recognition of Indigenous history, as our state's name comes from an Indigenous word. We must honor Indigenous contributions more respectfully in Illinois's identity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 12-pointed star represents the original 12 Native tribes of the Illiniwek, the namesake of the state. The 6-pointed star symbolizes Chicago and its importance to the state's development. Blue signifies the large bodies of water outlining the state, with each wave representing Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, the Ohio River, and the Wabash River. Green stands for the prairies and natural areas, while white embodies optimism for the future.

2973

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is rooted in personal and cultural history. Born in Chicago to immigrants, I embody diverse traditions. My family's long presence here reflects our commitment to community and resilience. I appreciate Illinois for its vibrant urban life and natural beauty. However, I feel a strong need for greater recognition of Indigenous history, as our state's name comes from an Indigenous word. We must honor Indigenous contributions more respectfully in Illinois's identity.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 12-pointed star uses spear shapes found in drawings that represents the original 12 Native tribes of the Illiniwek, the namesake of the state. The 6-pointed star symbolizes Chicago and its importance to the state's development. Blue signifies the large bodies of water outlining the state, with each wave representing Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, the Ohio River, and the Wabash River. The red rectangle represents Cahokia, the largest pre-Columbian city north of Mexico.

2974

Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Chicago Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the behind my grandsons flag is he put all the monumental events and dates on his flag to represent Illinois



2975

Relationship to Illinois

I have a long standing relationship to Illinois. I was born in the cook county area, and have resided in the southwest suburbs of Chicago for multiple years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Due to the excellent design of the current flag, I didn't want to deviate from the original design. Therefore, I incorporated some of the meaningful elements of the current flag into my design. Along with highlighting some of Illinois's important economic elements (corn, soy, and pumpkins) to the designs, and state symbols. My main objects was to include the actual state in the design, which may make it easier for anyone to identify the Illinois based on the shape of the state.



2976

Relationship to Illinois

Our names are Emily and Madeline Grobe, two sisters born and raised in Illinois. We are from Rockford, Illinois, and are passionate about our little slice of the country. Each year that passes we fall more in love with the grassy plains and big open sky, and the policies that keep our people safe and free. The people of Illinois are diverse, humble, hardworking, innovative, and always pushing for progress. Illinois is a safe haven here in the Midwest, and we are proud to call this state home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Our goal with this design is to honor our state bird and tree creating an iconic and unmistakably Illinois symbol. The cardinal represents a flash of hope or inspiration; the golden arc is a guiding light toward a successful future, carrying 10 stars for the 10 economic regions in Illinois; the oak represents growth, stability, and endurance; last, the white background demonstrates peace and Illinois' role as a safe haven. The color scheme represents devotion, success, growth, and protection.



2977

Relationship to Illinois

Our names are Emily and Madeline Grobe, two sisters born and raised in Illinois. We are from Rockford, Illinois, and are passionate about our little slice of the country. Each year that passes we fall more in love with the grassy plains and big open sky, and the policies that keep our people safe and free. The people of Illinois are diverse, humble, hardworking, innovative, and always pushing for progress. Illinois is a safe haven here in the Midwest, and we are proud to call this state home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Central to this flag is a circular emblem made up of a sun and sky, a field, and a river all framed with gilded oak leaves and acorns. Our goal with this design is to honor the beautiful landscape of Illinois-the original savannas/prairies and the agricultural land we are known for. Deep blue represents trust and responsibility; sky blue optimism, safety, and clearness of mind; green for land, earth, and our obligation to this place and its people; finally, gold for success and progress.

2978

Relationship to Illinois

Our names are Emily and Madeline Grobe, two sisters born and raised in Illinois. We are from Rockford, Illinois, and are passionate about our little slice of the country. Each year that passes we fall more in love with the grassy plains and big open sky, and the policies that keep our people safe and free. The people of Illinois are diverse, humble, hardworking, innovative, and always pushing for progress. Illinois is a safe haven here in the Midwest, and we are proud to call this state home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design is simple and powerful. Our goal is to honor our state flower and create a modern but classic symbol for our state. The violet is a symbol of humility, loyalty, and inspiration*the plant itself is adaptable and self-sufficient. A ring of 21 stars is a tribute to Illinois as the 21st state. The field of blue represents trust, responsibility, and integrity; a white border for sanctuary, freedom, and choice. Illinois is a shining example of democracy, welcoming all walks of life.

2979



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue is the same blue of the United States flag. The 18 pointed star represents the year the State of Illinois was admitted to the union, 1818. The swirly lines leading to the star represents all of the different people that come to Illinois from many places.

2980



Relationship to Illinois

As a lifelong Illinois resident of the City of Chicago, the stories and events that make up the history of my home state are an intrinsic part of my passion for understanding the place Illinois has in the United States. The resilience, industry and ingenuity that defines the State and its People is an always present reminder of what Illinois is capable of achieving.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"The Starbound Stag" White tailed Deer: State Animal of Illinois looking skywards towards the guiding stars. 1818: The year Illinois was admitted into the Union. Three Stars Contain Four Symbolic Features: 1. 21 star points signifying Illinois as 21st State 2. Three main regions of Illinois - (Northern, Central and Southern) 3. Three bodies of water that define the natural boundaries of Illinois - (The Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, and Lake Michigan) 4. The Council of 3 Fires



2981

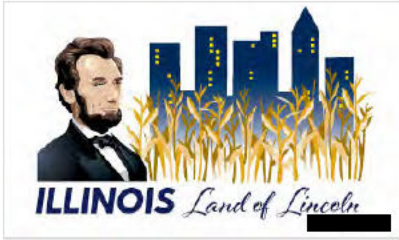
Relationship to Illinois

i live in the state

Explain the meaning behind your flag

illinois has weed and we are def better than iowa

2982



Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois for 21 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

When you think of the state of Illinois, many will think of it as the Land of Lincoln.

That being said...I included a portrait of President Lincoln to represent the Land of Lincoln. The cornstalks represent the agriculture sector of our state, while the city skyline represents the industrial, manufacturing sector of our State.

2983



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I attended college for four years in another state, but moved back to Illinois upon graduation, and have lived in Chicago for the past decade. I fully intend to live in Illinois for my entire life. My great grandparents immigrated to Chicago at the beginning of the 20th century, and my family has remained in the Chicagoland area ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The symbol at the center is inspired by the Mississippian copper plates made at the copper workshop at Cahokia, specifically that of the falcon or the firebird discovered by Upper Bluff Lake, IL. The color of the diamond is violet in honor of the state flower. Then, the white six-pointed star represents the White City and Illinois's return to the world stage. The falcon faces left with a star over its right shoulder provides continuity to the eagle and the sun on the current flag.

2984

Relationship to Illinois



Illinois is a very special state for me because I was born here. I think it is very unique, with Southern Illinois being more farmland and Northern Illinois being more wooded.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

As I designed this flag, I wanted to represent the rural and urban parts of Illinois. I included the state animal: the White-Tailed deer, the state bird: the cardinal, and the state flower: the violet. To represent the urban parts of Illinois I chose to include a Chicago city skyline detail as part of my flag's design. My goal for this design was to share a few of the diverse elements that make Illinois unique and special.

2985

Relationship to Illinois



Born and raised in Illinois. Currently live and work in Illinois. Served in the Illinois Army National Guard for 36 years. Graduated with degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Springfield., Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

JimGrimesILStar.JPGThe horizontal bars are Light Sky Blue, Green, Amber or Gold, Green, Blue, White, and Red. The lettering shows the name of our state: ILLINOIS in Amber or Gold, Helvetica Bold Italics. The seven-pointed star is White. The colors represent Illinois' land, lakes, rivers, streams and sky. The Red, White and Blue represent our sovereign state in our united nation. The seven-pointed star signifies the light from the past and a beacon for our future.

2986

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois has lasted for 12 years as I was born here. We live in the town that my mom grew up in and we are very proud to be living in Illinois. It is a great state and I would never live anywhere else. I love having Lake Michigan and the people in Illinois. I love the green energy that my Dad has helped to develop; like wind farms. It makes Illinois so much nicer and cleaner.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is the blue background is that in Illinois we have freedom. The 21 red stars symbolize that Illinois was the 21st state and we are proud. The cardinal is our state bird so having the cardinal on the Illinois flag is very important.



2987

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois. Live and work in Illinois. Served 36 years in the Illinois Army National Guard. Earned degrees at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Springfield, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

JimGrimesILOfthePeople.JPG The horizontal bars are Red, White and Blue. The map of the State of Illinois is Amber or Gold. The insert of Lincoln's silhouette is White. The ILLINOIS lettering is White, Helvetica Bold Italic. The lettering: of the People, by the People, for the People is Blue, is Helvetica Bold Italic. Illinois is the Land of Lincoln and his phrases from the Gettysburg Address are appropriate for a flag of the People of Illinois.



2988

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. My daughter designed this flag to combine part of the old and mix with new.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eagle is from the original flag and the leaves are from the state tree. There are 13 stars to represent the 13th amendment and Illinois being the first to implement.





2989

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, I like Illinois a lot, and I lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eagle represents the national bird and the freedom in this state. And the sun represents that we live in a very bright and happy state.



2990

Relationship to Illinois

My daughter was born and is being raised in Illinois. She is proud to be part of this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

These are Lily's (submitter) words: My flag has our state bird, a lake to represent all of our lakes, it is a rainbow to show that everyone is important, there is a heart because we love Illinois, and a symbol of peace by the cardinal.



2991

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois and have been all of my life, growing up in a small town in Illinois and now living in the big city of Chicago for the past 40 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Design honors the indigenous peoples--the early inhabitants of Illinois--custodians of the land we call our state. Illinois map can also be seen as an arrowhead. An Indian chief and Lincoln represent historical figures to whom we owe so much. Our forebearers grew corn and we still do, for nourishment and for industry. Buildings in background represent progress. Unitatem, latin for "unity" is the bond between rural and urban communities and between Illinois and states of the United States.

2992

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois. Live and work in Illinois. Served 36 years in the Illinois Army National Guard. Earned degrees at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Springfield, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

JimGrimesILShield1818.JPGThe horizontal bars are Violet, Light Sky Blue, Blue, Green, and Amber.The ILLINOIS lettering is White, Helvetica Bold. The Shield is Blue with Red and White stripes. The 1818 lettering is White, Helvetica Bold. The shield shows the peoples commitment to State Sovereignty and National Union. The bars on the flag represent our state flower the Violet, the sky, lakes, rivers, streams, land and fields of our state.



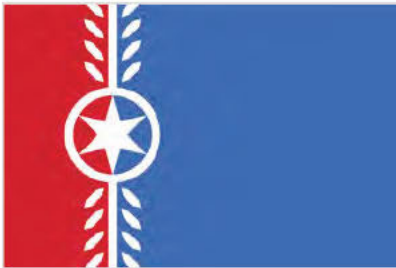
2993

Relationship to Illinois

I am a US citizen who has lived in Illinois since birth.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red, white, and blue are all colors in the original design and best represent Illinois. The six-pointed star is a symbolic icon of Chicago, the biggest and most populated city in Illinois. The white accents are meant to look like wheat or grains, as Illinois is known for its agriculture, specifically with corn.



2994



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Urbana, Illinois since 1980. I earned my PhD at the University of Illinois. I teach at the University of Illinois. My son was born here and earned his BS and MS at the University of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For each contribution, the green triangle represents the forests in the southern part of the state, and the forested areas scattered throughout the state. The yellow triangle stands for agriculture. The blue triangle represents Lake Michigan and the Illinois River. Upper Candidate 1: The famous Chicago bean over the word "Illinois." Middle Candidate 2: The silhouette of Springfield below the word "Illinois." Lower Candidate 3: The silhouette of the Chicago downtown without the word "Illinois"

2995



Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Gurnee, IL. Student attends Illinois Math and Science Academy.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

-Honors state bird: northern cardinal-total 21 stars = our place as the 21st state; 10 above for the north, 10 below for the south. 6pt star is large and out front, us leading the nation since our founding just before the civil war-Nod to Chicago flag: 6 pts are transport, labor, commerce, finance, population, health. Also nods to Springfield flag (red star and white star ring)-Old Glory Blue = the Illinois & Mississippi river, Lake Michigan. Cardinal is flying from darkness into light

2996

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is home. I'm proud to be born and raised here. I attended DePaul University and now work at Northwestern University as a Graphic Designer. I also worked at Lincoln Park Zoo, creating banners proudly displayed every year. Illinois is a beautiful melding of people, goals, and ideologies. I see Illinois as the intersection of America*industrially, culturally and even geographically. As a woman of color and a proud Illinoisan I long for a flag that unites all of us, just as this state does.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow is our golden prairie, and the two blues honor Lake Michigan and the mighty Mississippi river. On the right are 20 stars, with the large red star as the 21st to represent us as the 21st state. The red star represents our strong workforce, railroad industry, and our continual pursuit of progress. The small stars also honor our bountiful fields of agriculture. The white stripe pays homage to the original flag, and the flowing lines represent the movement, growth, and future of Illinois.

2997

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois native and business owner

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design features a modern approach incorporating strong symbolic elements. The light blue segment of the flag evokes the lakes, rivers, and streams of Illinois. The central figure is a large, stylized eagle in flight - its sharp, angular wings stretching diagonally across the flag. This eagle symbolizes freedom and strength as expressed in the Illinois state seal. The yellow circle represents the sun and symbolizes energy, optimism, and growth.



2998

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is home. I'm proud to be born and raised here. I attended DePaul University and now work at Northwestern University as a Graphic Designer. I also worked at Lincoln Park Zoo, creating banners proudly displayed every year. Illinois is a beautiful melding of people, goals, and ideologies. I see Illinois as the intersection of America*industrially, culturally and even geographically. As a woman of color and a proud Illinoisan I long for a flag that unites all of us, just as this state does.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red seal has 21 points, symbolizing Illinois as the 21st state. Red represents our strong workforce and railroad industry. The triangular edge also reflects native imagery from the state's Indigenous tribes and the Cahokia Mounds. The yellow circle signifies our agriculturally rich golden prairie and the blue stripe honors Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The white, blue and white sections represent the state's 3 regions. The prominent white pays homage to the original Illinois flag.

2999

Relationship to Illinois

Raised in Buffalo Grove, I completed my primary education here. As an Illinois State Scholar, I earned two degrees at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from 2019 to 2023. While there, I worked as an EMT during the COVID-19 pandemic, serving across the state*from Champaign to Quincy and as far south as Mt. Vernon*experiencing its diverse communities and natural beauty. As an engineer supplying natural gas to northern Illinois, I continue to serve this state and its people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag symbolizes Illinois with a beige background representing "The Prairie State." The two stars have 21 points, marking Illinois as the 21st state. The inner star honors Chicago, the largest city, in violet (the color of the state flower). The four symbols are: hammers and a nail for industry, blue waves for rivers and Lake Michigan, wheat for agriculture, and a native-inspired deer hide, symbolizing Illinois' indigenous heritage and its commitment to honoring Native American history.

3000

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident: 3 counties and 7 municipalities; Attended American Academy of Art/Chicago; Designed the U.S. Commemorative Quarter for the State of Illinois in 2003 (Selected from over 6000 entries); 2022 highest award winner in "Public Good" category from Graphic Design USA; Artist for 200th Abraham Lincoln birthday celebration in Springfield (2008); Red ribbon art winner at Illinois State Fair (2013); "Cool Globes" art exhibition (2017); Southern IL Art & Artisan Center/Rend Lake (2015-16).



Explain the meaning behind your flag

To honor IL's admittance to the Union in 1818 (the only State admitted that year), the banner on the flag's right side is cut at 2 18-degree angles, the 20 gold stars (representing the 1st 20 States) sit 18 degrees apart, & the radius ratio components of the large star (representing IL) are 21/50. The red band in the middle signifies a diverse but unified IL populace moving forward as one from 1818 to the present day and beyond, framed by blue bands signifying freedom and liberty. 1818 onward!

3001

Relationship to Illinois

As the Founder and CEO of Fortress, a creative agency in Chicago, I love this state and believe it deserves a flag that speaks to the honor that has defined it since its inception. More personally, I was born and raised in Illinois as the son of immigrant parents, so the story of my connection to Illinois started before I was born and will continue for generations. I hope to be strongly considered for this flag redesign and believe the submission is a worthy representation of our great state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The central figure in this design is the cardinal, Illinois' state bird, symbolizing freedom. The bird holds a stalk of wheat, representing the state's agricultural roots and its moniker, "the prairie state." Above, a Chicago star honors the city, placed in the top right to reflect its geographical location. Surrounding the bird are 20 stars, marking Illinois as the 21st state. Finally, "1818" in the bottom left represents the year Illinois gained statehood.

3002



Relationship to Illinois

An eccentric Illinois daughter, I was born in Elk Grove Village with Erb's Palsy and spent childhood in Mount Prospect before moving to Rolling Meadows when my family lost our house to bankruptcy. School was always a haven and took me all the way to Evanston where I studied at Northwestern on scholarship being both a Pell Grant and Illinois MAP recipient. I decided to specialize in the arts and humanities once my father was incarcerated at Cook County because of the art he created there for me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Corn fed. Illinois bred. Irresistible. Illinois, a place that is inherently indigenous, has an especially strong bond with corn--a crop the Midwest knows is the best! Surrounded too with potable water, it is no wonder the region flourished into the bountiful cornucopia known now as the city of Chicago.

3003



Relationship to Illinois

Relation to Illinois. Looking at the flag. When I meet someone new they asks if I am a Chicagoan, I say what do you mean, and they reply were you born and raised in Chicago. I say I have lived here for 40 years but I was not born In Chicago. Most say that's good enough for me. My goal when looking at the flag: Too see that Illinois is a huge melting pot of different people that can be friends.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Explain. Reasoning Behind the flag. My flag. has three colors. The blue is the background. It stands for. Agriculture and Industry. The red line represents the water. We have the Mississippi on the left and the Lake Michigan on the right. This is our most important commodity and must be protected. Green represents the people of Illinois. So when all this comes together, we have a very simplistic view of my simplistic flag.

3004

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student in the small town of Salem, Illinois. It is in the southern part of the state. Growing up in a rural area, it is important to me that the flag represent my Illinois as well as the urban and suburban areas.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Eagle represents the United States of America. The Buildings represent the urban part of Illinois, while the silos represent the rural parts and the homes represent the suburban areas. The corn represents our crops. The rock with the dates represents our state's establishment. The ribbons signify our unity as a state. The state in the background shows what the state looks like and represents its civilians. The lake represents all of our bodies of water.



3005

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for the past three years with no plans to leave any time soon!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 13 blue stars represent the 13 original states of the Union. The sun symbol is retained in the new design and sits on a horizon of water (representing both Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, the east-west bounds of the state). The sun emits 12 sunbeams, which are styled geometrically a la Great Lakes indigenous art from pre-1800 (akin to the hides in the Mus*e du quai Branly). The 12 sunbeams represent the 12 tribes of the Illiniwek Confederacy for which the state is named.



3006

Relationship to Illinois

Raised in Buffalo Grove, I completed my primary education here. As an Illinois State Scholar, I earned two degrees at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from 2019 to 2023. While there, I worked as an EMT during the COVID-19 pandemic, serving across the state*from Champaign to Quincy and as far south as Mt. Vernon*experiencing its diverse communities and natural beauty. As an engineer supplying natural gas to northern Illinois, I continue to serve this state and its people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's 21 stars signify Illinois as the 21st state, with the largest star marking its 1818 admission to the Union. The sinusoidal lines on the right symbolize Illinois' crucial waterways (rivers, Lake Michigan) and their role in agriculture and history. Colors hold meaning: off-white background for peace and unity, maroon stars for courage and determination, and navy water for strength, stability, and resilience*reflecting the character and enduring spirit of Illinois and its diverse people.

3007

Relationship to Illinois

I am a PROUD lifelong resident of Sangamon County, IL

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is a green flag with an orange silhouette of a great white oak, the state tree, tall and mighty. The tree has 21 large limbs to represent being the 21st state in the Union and 102 branches to represent the 102 counties in Illinois. Green for our prairies and our status as a major agricultural state. Orange is to represent our diverse people. I pulled from the red star of the flag of Chicago. Yellow for the colors of pyramids to represent Cairo. We are one Illinois from Cook to Cairo!



3008

Relationship to Illinois

I am an 8th grade student at Selmaville Grade School. We live in a small town called Salem. It is in the southern part of the state. Our hometown is mostly farm land. We are studying all about the history of Illinois and the state constitution. My teacher told us all about the flag design contest when we learned about the current IL flag. I think it would be really nice if an Illinois student designed the new flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The buildings represent our Urban. The wide open space represents the Suburban. The sun represents Hope for a new day. The flowers represent the beauty of our country. The rock represents the rocky area, heart represents the love for our country.





Office of the Secretary of State
ilsos.gov

Illinois Flag Commission Submissions



3009

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I have two degrees from the University of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Connecting Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River via the waterways of Illinois. The waters take you past the birthplace of skyscrapers and through the historic prairies and bountiful farms.

3010

Relationship to Illinois

Raised in Buffalo Grove, I completed my primary education here. As an Illinois State Scholar, I earned two degrees at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from 2019 to 2023. While there, I worked as an EMT during the COVID-19 pandemic, serving across the state*from Champaign to Quincy and as far south as Mt. Vernon*experiencing its diverse communities and natural beauty. As an engineer supplying natural gas to northern Illinois, I continue to serve this state and its people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's 3 stars represent the three diverse regions of Illinois: northern, central, and southern. Each star aligns with a wavy line symbolizing essential waterways*Lake Michigan (north), Illinois River (central), and Mississippi/Ohio Rivers (south). The off-white background signifies peace and unity. Maroon rivers represent courage and determination, reflecting Illinois' spirit. Navy stars symbolize strength, stability, and authority, celebrating Illinois' resilience and hope for the future.

3011

Relationship to Illinois

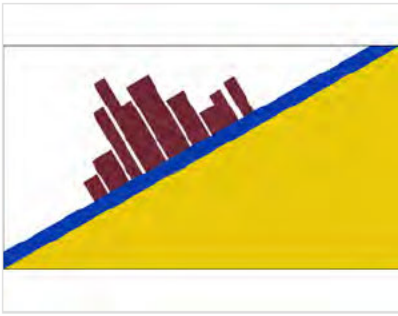
I was born, raised and still live in Illinois. The state has been my home my whole life and I still see no reason to ever change that.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This submission is the Rail Splitter Flag, Abraham Lincoln's ax breaking slaver's chains on the stump of an white oak tree on a field of Black. The field color represents the darkness of the civil war, while the ax represents our 16th president's roles in ending the conflict and freeing the slaves. The white oak stump represents the damage done to state and union, while the outline of Illinois in its bark represents the future that sacrifice allowed us to have.



3012



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and am a proud resident of the City of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents the golden prairies and farmlands of the prairie state. The strip of blue represents the various waters of Illinois - Mississippi River, Lake Michigan, Illinois River, Fox River, Kaskaskia River - and the skyscrapers represent Chicago. The skyscrapers are also an outline of the western edge of Illinois.

3013



Relationship to Illinois

I am a student at Selmaville Grade School. I live in Salem, Illinois with my mom and siblings. I am in the 8th grade. We designed flags for our 8th grade social studies class as we studied the history of Illinois and how we got our current flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eagle represents the United States and it represents the strength and freedom of America. I added wording in a banner that says "state sovereignty national union". That shows our state motto. The banner is placed above the eagle in an arch. On the left I have water with the sun above shining. Below the sun is a shield that is red, white, and blue representing the original 13 colonies. At the bottom under its feet to the right is the rock with 1818, the year Illinois became a state.

3014



Relationship to Illinois

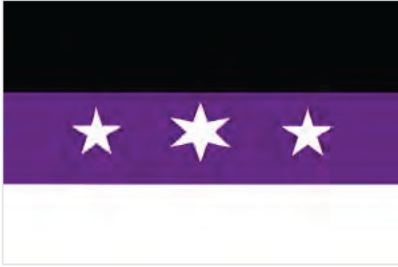
Citizen of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow in the flag stands for the prairie state of Illinois and the farming of Illinois. It is at the bottom because most of farming in Illinois is in the southern part of Illinois. The blue stands for the waters near Chicago and Chicago itself. It is on the top of the flag because Chicago and the waters are in the north. And the star in the middle is from the Chicago flag because Chicago is a major part of Illinois and it is in the middle because Springfield is the capitol. It is in central IL.

3015

Relationship to Illinois



I have lived in the state my whole life, mainly in the north of the state, and I always thought the flag was not good, not representing anything and not looking good at all, and for years I have wanted it to be redone

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois, the six point star, as the middle of the nation, connecting east and west, the black and white stripes represent the spectrum of differing people here, with the purple representing the mixture of different opinions coming together to unite the flag

3016

Relationship to Illinois



Both sides of my family have been in Southern Illinois for more than five generations. I grew up in O'Fallon and attended SIUE. I have numerous fond memories of making the drive up to Chicago on 55 along the railroad tracks or through Champaign to visit friends at U-of-I. I had a summer job at Wicks Pipe Organ Company in Highland traveling to churches in every part of the state to tune and maintain their pipe organs. Nothing compares to a hot summer thunderstorm moving in across the corn fields!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The fleur-de-lis shape with the center petal as an ear of corn represents Illinois' position as an agricultural powerhouse between the Mississippi and Wabash / Ohio rivers. Twenty-one kernels represent Illinois' entry as the 21st state. A black field stands for Illinois' fertile soil, coal and oil resources and the steel of our railroads and factories. The white background*relates this flag to the old Illinois flag. Three green blades of prairie grass represent the three state capital cities.

3017

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is the state I proudly call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed a bold flag by adding 2 borders on the flag, I did this because there are not a lot of flags like this in the world and it can be easily remembered, also because Illinois is bordered by water. The blue border represents the state's lakes and rivers, the green border stands for the fact that Illinois is known as the "Prairie State". An eagle holding a shield was added in the center, representing freedom and strength. The gold stars represent the three significant regions of Illinois.



3018

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state for my whole life, and I always thought the flag was not representative of any one or thing, and I always wanted to change that

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I like to call it Midpoint, our state being the midpoint from the sea to shining sea, the black on top represents the industry of the north and the purple on bottom represents the farmland of the center and south



3019

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is the state I proudly call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed a bold flag by adding 2 borders on the flag, I did this because there are not a lot of flags like this in the world and it can be easily remembered, also because Illinois is bordered by water. The blue border represents the state's lakes and rivers, the green border stands for the fact that Illinois is known as the "Prairie State". An eagle holding a shield was added in the center, representing freedom and strength. The gold stars represent the three significant regions of Illinois.



3020

Relationship to Illinois

I have been living in Illinois for 56 years of my life. I love this state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois being the land of Lincoln, I went with the classic piece of art on the left side of traditional Illinois farmland, and the right side of Illinois shapes the famous Chicago cityscape.



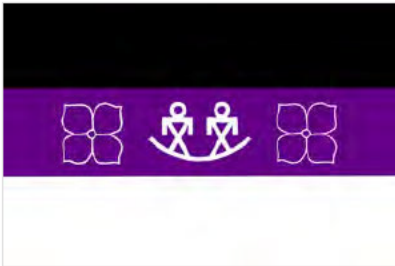
3021

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life, and I always wanted to make the flag more representative

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is Unity, the center has the Native American symbol for equality, to its sides is the state flower representing the vast wildlife of Illinois, the purple is the mixture of the blue and red, representing our French and British ties, with the black and white stripes, on top and bottom respectfully, representing the vastly differing people of our state.



3022

Relationship to Illinois

I have been living in Illinois for 56 years of my life. I love this state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is the land of Lincoln, so I went with the classic piece of art on Abraham Lincoln with his school book, which denotes the importance of education and salutes all of Illinois's teachers*the left side of traditional Illinois farmland. The right side of Illinois shapes the famous Chicago cityscape.





3023

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to give people a closer look on how beautiful Illinois really is.



3024

Relationship to Illinois

I have been living in Illinois for 56 years of my life. I love this state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used all of the symbols of the state of Illinois within the Illinois border: the state bird, The Cardinal, the state tree oak, the state fruit apple, the state animal deer, the state butterfly monarch butterfly, the state vegetable corn, and the state Lilac. I also went with the classic piece of art on the left side of traditional Illinois farmland, and the right side of Illinois shapes the famous Chicago cityscape.

3025

Relationship to Illinois

I am considering attending a college in Illinois (Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville) I often go to Illinois, specifically the area of East Saint Louis, to serve a ministry I volunteer with. Illinois, like every state in the union, is deserving of a good flag. Though I might not have extensive ties to the state, it is in need of a good flag, and I seek to provide it with one that is distinctive yet unique to the 21st state in the union.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

-The New Century Flag-The redesign takes from the flags of the Illinois Centennial and Sesquicentennial. The red, white, and blue are to show the state's loyalty to the U.S. (The blue is the color of Union uniforms in the Civil War, the white being the pure cause of the Union, and the red the blood shed by soldiers in the Civil War). 10 stars above and below represent the 10 Northern and Southern states at Illinois' entry in 1818, the large, 21st white and red star representing Illinois herself

3026

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED]. I was born in Chicago and lived in River Forest until I was 10 years old. When my family moved away it was hard, because I missed the activities and events of the city and I miss going for long walks along the Desplaines River. Although I was young at the time, Illinois left a lasting impression on me and as someone who loves designing flags, when I heard about this commission, I was thrilled to have the chance to design a flag for a place I still love.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In designing the flag, I wanted to keep the elements simple, but with deeper meaning. In this design, the diagonal stripes represent the french origins of Illinois by alluding to the Franco-American flag. The red, white, and blue, represents the colours of the United States. Finally, the star symbolises the great accomplishments the state has made in its history.

3027

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED]. I was born in Chicago and lived in River Forest until I was 10 years old. When my family moved away it was hard, because I missed the activities and events of the city and I miss going for long walks along the Desplaines River. Although I was young at the time, Illinois left a lasting impression on me and as someone who loves designing flags, when I heard about this commission, I was thrilled to have the chance to design a flag for a place I still love.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In designing the flag, I wanted to keep the elements simple, but with deeper meaning. In this design, the blue on the left represents the Mississippi River on the left border of the state, and the blue on the right represents Lake Michigan. The light orange bar at the bottom represents the fields of prairie grass and corn, made in the shape of a Mississippian mound to represent the remnants of Cahokia. The star is the sign of hope and progress over the state throughout its history.

3028

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED]. I was born in Chicago and lived in River Forest until I was 10 years old. When my family moved away it was hard, because I missed the activities and events of the city and I miss going for long walks along the Desplaines River. Although I was young at the time, Illinois left a lasting impression on me and as someone who loves designing flags, when I heard about this commission, I was thrilled to have the chance to design a flag for a place I still love.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In designing the flag, I wanted to keep the elements simple, but with deeper meaning. In this design, the blue on the left represents the Mississippi River on the left border of the state, and the blue on the right represents Lake Michigan. The light orange bar at the bottom represents the fields of prairie grass and corn, made in the shape of a Mississippian mound to represent the remnants of Cahokia. The star is the sign of hope and progress over the state throughout its history.

3029

Relationship to Illinois

Colin was born and raised in Springfield, Illinois. Submitted by his mom, Betsey

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag includes several symbols of Illinois, depicting the state's diversity. The green represents vast fields of rural Illinois with the yellow representing corn. The gray strip represents the cap of the catsup bottle in Collinsville. The black strips or towers represent the skyline of Chicago, as well as other great Illinois cities. A black dome in the top center represents the state capitol. The brown on the right side represents the giant chair in Casey (home of many giant records).



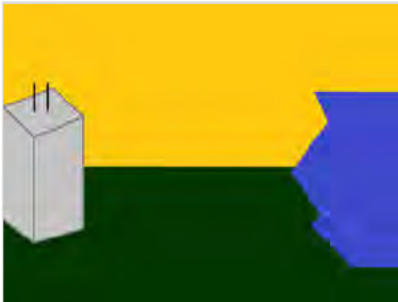
3030

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois and am in the Illinois public education system.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The deep green is meant to symbolize the plains & swamps that used to found throughout the state. The yellow is to represent wheat, Illinois's main crop. The building on the left is a symbol for Chicago and the shape on the left is a stylized Illinois. The blue is for the Mississippi, which marks the western border, and Lake Michigan, two integral bodies of water, both economically & culturally.



3031

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I spent all of my childhood in the suburbs of Chicago. I've since moved away to study in California for college, but leaving has only solidified my desire to move back and settle down back in Illinois. It's my home state, and I'm proud of it!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The vibrant long block of green references our status as the Prairie state. The star in the center is the same shape seen on the Chicago flag, but split and yellow. The top half represents a hopeful horizon on the great plains, while the bottom half represents corn, a major export of our state. The white stripe at the center references the white of the previous flag, and the grand blue up top represents the great lakes above us. It also creates a sky, which represents opportunity.

3032

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, born and raised, and currently residing in the western suburbs of Kane County.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois' status as the 21st U.S. state is the focus of this design. Ten staggered, five-point stars on the left and right representing earlier states pull the eye to a larger 21st star embedded in the distinctive silhouette of our state. Navy bars bound the top and bottom, with the whole design echoing the colors of our national flag.

3033

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is the state I proudly call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design was created using the Fibonacci sequence for perfect harmony. The 2 blue stripes represent the water surrounding Illinois and the green stripe represents the "Prairie State". The acorn and leaves were chosen because the oak is the state symbol. The oak leaves symbolizing longevity and the acorn prosperity. The gold color stands for success and achievement and white for new beginnings. The acorn and the oak leaves also depict a flying Cardinal, which is the state bird of Illinois.



3034

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since I was 10 months old and most of my family live/have lived in Illinois as well. I also go to school at the University of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I picked orange and navy blue as the colors because the Bears and the University of Illinois are both iconic to Illinois and also share the same color scheme. I put Abraham Lincoln as the center, inspired by Washington's flag, and because Illinois is the "Land of Lincoln". The four 6-point stars are symbolic to the Chicago flag as well.



3035

Relationship to Illinois

I am a PROUD lifelong resident of Sangamon County, IL

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is a green flag with an orange silhouette of a great white oak, the state tree, tall and mighty. The tree has 21 large limbs to represent being the 21st state in the Union and 102 branches to represent the 102 counties in Illinois. Green for our prairies and our status as a major agricultural state. Orange is to represent our diverse people. I pulled from the red star of the flag of Chicago. Yellow for the colors of pyramids to represent Cairo. We are one Illinois from Cook to Cairo!





3036

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is where I lived my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I like the idea of corn being incorporated in the flag. It's something that reminds me of Illinois when I visit other states. I also think It would be interesting with our full name in our flag. I really liked our previous flag because it was unique and different. So I just tried to make a flag.

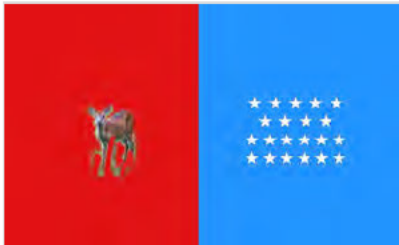
3037

Relationship to Illinois

My relation to Illinois is that I have lived in this state all my life so I wanted to submit a flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red and blue is because the university of Illinois color is red and blue is for the US.. the deer is because it is the state animal of Illinois. And the 21 stars is because it was the 21st state.



3038

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Chicago, IL since 2016. This is the longest place I have lived as an independent person.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Highlights we're the 21st state in the union. The 21 stars form "The Ferris Wheel of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair". Illinois is the 8 point star. This is hierarchy over Cook County's 7 point star design & Chicago's 6. It may be hung vertically or horizontally and be recognizable. The L Blue represents the 2 major bodies of water bordering our state. Along the top is Lake Michigan; the bottom is the Mississippi River. These 2 bodies are connected by the various river in between forming an "I".



3039

Relationship to Illinois

No relationship to Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is based on the 1918 Centennial flag of Illinois, with twenty stars for the ten northern and ten southern states at the time Illinois joined the Union, and a large one for Illinois itself on a blue Spanish fess. The six-pointed stars are borrowed from the flags of Chicago and Cook County. The white field represents peace and freedom, and the blue represents friendship and progress. Together the colors represent the two tenets of the state motto, "State Sovereignty and National Union."



3040

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow in the flag stands for the prairie state of Illinois and the farming of Illinois it is at the bottom because most of farming in Illinois is in the southern part of Illinois. The blue stands for the waters near Chicago and Chicago itself it is on the top of the flag because Chicago and the waters are in the north. And the star in the middle is from the Chicago flag because Chicago is a major part of Illinois and it is in the middle because Springfield is the capitol it is in central IL



3041

Relationship to Illinois

No relationship to Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is based on the 1918 Centennial flag of Illinois, with twenty stars for the ten northern and ten southern states at the time Illinois joined the Union, and a large one for Illinois itself on a blue Spanish fess. The six-pointed stars are borrowed from the flags of Chicago and Cook County. The white field represents peace and freedom, and the blue represents friendship and progress. Together the colors represent the two tenets of the state motto, "State Sovereignty and National Union."



3042

Relationship to Illinois

I am a child whose family lives in Illinois. My family grew up in Illinois and while I was not born in Illinois, I have spent the majority of my life thus far in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red star is for Chicago because the Chicago flag has red stars on it. The green represents the great soil of the midwest while the yellow represents the abundance of corn crops in Illinois. The top hat is for Abraham Lincoln. The blue is for lake Michigan.



3043

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois. Moved out East for 20 years for a job opportunity. Decided to come back home. Been back for over 20 years. Plan to stay and happy to be back!
(All artwork in flag is original)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

COLORS: GREEN: Land (Agriculture, Forests, Prairie, Recreation) BLUE: Water (Lakes, Rivers, Canals) WHITE: Brightness of IL future (built on a diverse economy and population) (White light = combination of all colors) STAR SHAPE: IL as Transportation Hub (Air, Rail, Highways, Water) IMAGE in Star: Land of Lincoln 8 PTS in STAR = IL Economy Business & Finance Technology & Information Transportation Manufacturing Agriculture Energy Education & Health Arts & Recreation

3044

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois. Moved out East for 20 years for a job opportunity. Decided to come back home. Been back for over 20 years. Plan to stay and happy to be back!
(All artwork in flag is original)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

COLORS: GREEN: Land (Agriculture, Forests, Prairie, Recreation) BLUE: Water (Lakes, Rivers, Canals) WHITE: Brightness of IL future (built on a diverse economy and population) (White light = combination of all colors) STAR SHAPE: IL as Transportation Hub (Air, Rail, Highways, Water) IMAGE in Star: Land of Lincoln 8 PTS in STAR = IL Economy Business & Finance Technology & Information Transportation Manufacturing Agriculture Energy Education & Health Arts & Recreation



3045

Relationship to Illinois

Born in the city of Chicago and lived here his whole young life. Loves the museums, history of the city, and geological history of the state

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of the ten stars is the people of Illinois. The meaning of the stripes are a celebration of our American heritage.



3046

Relationship to Illinois

Both sides of my family have been in Southern Illinois for more than five generations. I grew up in O'Fallon and attended SIUE. I have numerous fond memories of making the drive up to Chicago on 55 along the railroad tracks or through Champaign to visit friends at U-of-I. I had a summer job at Wicks Pipe Organ Company in Highland traveling to churches in every part of the state to tune and maintain their pipe organs. Nothing compares to a hot summer thunderstorm moving in across the corn fields!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A friend from Indiana said that they always think of Illinois as SUNNY. This flag uses the sun design from the old Illinois state flag but with twenty-one rays to represent Illinois becoming the 21st state.



3047

Relationship to Illinois

I'm 18 years old and was born and raised in the state of Illinois my whole life. I'm a Senior at Rochester High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors of red white & blue in this flag are inspired by the colors of the flag of the USA, and are meant to represent unity through this inspiration. The "I" in the middle is meant to represent the state of Illinois itself, as well as the stars encircling the letter. The stars number in 21, representing the fact that Illinois was the 21st state found. The triangle's significance is meant purely to be a unique design choice, and to stand out more as opposed to a standard red stripe.

3048



Relationship to Illinois

I'm 18 years old and was born and raised in the state of Illinois my whole life. I'm a Senior at Rochester High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors of red white and blue share the same significance as the first flag, being inspired by the American flag and representing unity. There are 21 stars, with the big star in the middle representing the state of Illinois.

3049



Relationship to Illinois

I live in the state of Illinois, I go to school in Illinois and my family and friends are here too!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It resembles peace and the meaning of life. It also means to believe in your imagination.

3050

Relationship to Illinois

Both sides of my family have been in Southern Illinois for more than five generations. I grew up in O'Fallon and attended SIUE. I have numerous fond memories of making the drive up to Chicago on 55 along the railroad tracks or through Champaign to visit friends at U-of-I. I had a summer job at Wicks Pipe Organ Company in Highland traveling to churches in every part of the state to tune and maintain their pipe organs. Nothing compares to a hot summer thunderstorm moving in across the corn fields!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The state tree of Illinois is the white oak, with its iconic leaf. Orange is a meaningful color for the top pumpkin-producing state and references the state butterfly, the Monarch. The white background relates this design to the old Illinois flag. Navy blue connects this flag to the old flag and the US flag.



3051

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in the state my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It has the 4 presidents who lived in Illinois, Abraham Lincoln, Barack Obama, Ronald Reagan, and Ulysses Grant, and where they lived in Illinois, Springfield, Chicago, Tampico, and Galena. It has a cardinal, the state bird, on each side. At the top it has the word "Illinois", "December 3, 1818", the date of statehood, and "State Sovereignty National Union", the state motto.



3052

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois all my life and love it here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I Used the U of I colors and some green to make an "I" from the center cornstalk/candle (depending on how the viewer interprets it), and an "L" with the navy blue bar on the left and box in the upper right.



3053

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is I was born and raised in Chicago. Throughout my years, I have been attending Chicago public schools and experiencing life here in Chicago. It is very dear to me and the state itself holds many memories. I'm proud to call Chicago a home, I can express both my unique background and the various cultures around me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag consists of aspects the old flag consisted of as well as new additions. The white-tailed deer is Illinois' representative animal. This animal is a symbol of nature and purity, and Illinois is known for its diverse landscapes. The eagle, also in the old flag, represents freedom. Similar to the eagle that was on the previous flag, the rock with the dates 1868 and 1818 in remembrance of when Illinois became a state. The slogan remains, holding deep importance to Illinois beliefs.

3054

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois. Lived here my entire life. Never thought of moving. I have a career as an art director in Chicago's top advertising agencies.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue round corners represent the Mississippi River in the lower left and Lake Michigan in the upper right. The green background represents the Illinois prairie and Illinois agriculture. The corn cob cross section in the center represents Illinois agriculture, and Marina City, an icon of the world-class architecture Chicago is known for.



3055

Relationship to Illinois

I am 26 years old and have lived in Illinois all my life. I'm very proud to be from Peoria/Pekin, and I enjoy living here. I'm very proud of our state's history and heritage, and I love all of our state symbols. I very much enjoy our state's places of natural beauty, and most of the cities, towns, and places here. I have a tattoo of Illinois on my ankle, and I kept an Illinois flag with me while I was deployed

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A combination of a blue field of stars, and stripes, distinct from, but paying homage to the national flag. There are 21 stars representing Illinois's place in the union, and 18 stripes representing the year 1818, for admission into the union. The stripes are green and gold, for the fields, crops, and prairies of Illinois, with gold also being representative of the sun, and it's place in the state seal. On the stripes is an ear of corn, representing one of our state's most well known products



3056



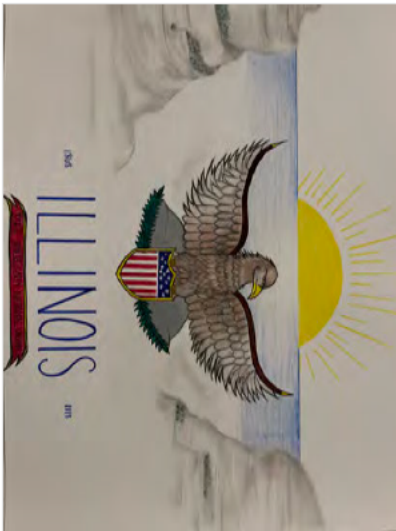
Relationship to Illinois

I'm 18 years old and was born and raised in the state of Illinois my whole life. I'm a Senior at Rochester High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design was inspired by Illinois's Centennial Flag, a nod to the state's past. The star in the middle represents the state of Illinois, and there are 21 stars in total. The blue stripe in the middle is meant to purely be a design choice and to stand out.

3057



Relationship to Illinois

The state of Illinois has been my home for more than 20 years. The numeral amount of opportunities, rich nature, open land, and diverse cultures unite all of us as Illinoisians regardless of where we reside. Illinois became more than just another state in the United States of America; Illinois became the structural base of my life and home to my family who have taught me the importance of values, respect and love for others while we thrive each day to succeed and make a difference.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I strongly believe in the importance of our history and those who represent us, therefore, my ideal flag design includes elements from our current flag. I understand that for many of us, our flag represents our home. I decided to slightly modify the layout in order to maintain the symbolism behind our flag while incorporating the well-known "Starved Rock State Park". Where people from urban, suburban, and rural communities reunite to admire Illinois' beautiful part of nature.

3058

Relationship to Illinois

I am 26 years old and have lived in Illinois all my life. I'm very proud to be from Peoria/Pekin, and I enjoy living here. I'm very proud of our state's history and heritage, and I love all of our state symbols. I very much enjoy our state's places of natural beauty, and most of the cities, towns, and places here. I have a tattoo of Illinois on my ankle, and I kept an Illinois flag with me while I was deployed



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A green field for our natural beauty. A blue chevron, facing forward, as the flag flies, indicating progress, but blue representing the various meetings of rivers in our state or at our borders. The chevron is flanked by gold, representing golden fields, on the banks of the rivers, at the front of progress. A single gold stripe runs in the center for the length, for a similar representation, but may be blue to show more the importance of the rivers. The stripe is impaled with the state seal

3059

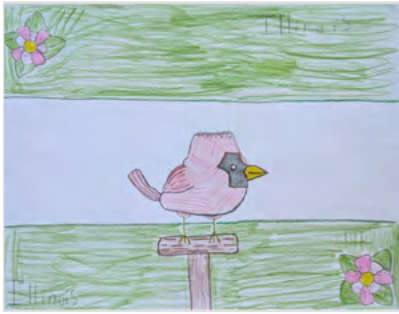
Relationship to Illinois

While I do not currently live in Illinois, I grew up near its borders in Indiana, and have several family members who lived most of their lives in the Land of Lincoln. I have traveled extensively throughout the state, from the bustling streets of the Chicago loop to suburbs in Aurora and Naperville, to the rolling fields of Champaign and Bloomington, and even the southern extent at Cairo. These travels have given me deep respect for Illinois' people and land.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The golden triangle at the center symbolizes the rich agricultural heritage of Illinois and its rolling fields of golden corn. The black stripes extending outwards symbolize the hard work of Illinoisans through industry and the railroads which were key to the state's development. Blue symbolizes the state's waterways, especially the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan which bound the state. Finally, the red six-pointed star symbolizes the contributions made by the City of Chicago.



3060

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the four star city and currently live here too!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

We often have a cardinal visit our trees in our backyard.

3061

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Chicago, proud to call Illinois a home. The state is culturally diverse allowing me to bring in my unique background.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The colors used are colors of the United States flag as well as a color of the Chicago flag. This color choice was decided as I wanted to combine both colors of the USA flag as well as a color in relation to the state itself. The shield is from the original shield that was on the current Illinois state flag, representing the original 13 states. Here, it represents the original 13 states as well as the strength Illinois holds.



3062

Relationship to Illinois

I am a PROUD lifelong resident of Sangamon County, IL

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is a green flag with an orange silhouette of a great white oak, the state tree, tall and mighty. The tree has 21 large limbs to represent being the 21st state in the Union and 102 branches to represent the 102 counties in Illinois. Green for our prairies and our status as a major agricultural state. Orange is to represent our diverse people. I pulled from the red star of the flag of Chicago. Yellow for the colors of pyramids to represent Cairo. We are one Illinois from Cook to Cairo!



3063

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in East St. Louis, I have moved away several times but always return to the Metro area. Both parents were born and raised in IL, and each of my 3 children spent significant parts of their childhood and school days in IL. Schooled in East St. Louis, and a graduate of SIUE.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The wheel in center of the flag represents the importance and prominence of covered wagons, farm machinery, and railways in Illinois history. Black represents rails, coal, and oil. The green represents the agriculture (corn, wheat, soy beans,) and forests. Orange represents pumpkins, of which Illinois is a primary producer, and the monarch butterflies who inhabit our state. White represents the current flag.



3064

Relationship to Illinois

i was born here in Illinois. My whole family lives here except my grandma from my moms side who lives in Poland

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The first star is for Fort Dearborn, the second represents the Great Chicago Fire, the third and fourth stand for the two world's fairs that took place in Chicago. The eagle represents us as a whole, and the Land of Lincoln.



3065

Relationship to Illinois

This submission is from my son and his 2 classmates, who are in 5th grade in Rock Island, IL My relationship to Illinois is that I live here and was born here. I love my state and I'm a huge fan of all it does for me. It's the best place I've ever been and ever plan to be. () I live here and was born here () I live here and was born here ()

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A rectangular flag that's blue with a black circle in the middle and the state name and est. date under it. In the black circle is the Willis tower on the right, corn and soybeans on the left. Abraham Lincoln on the bottom and a tractor on the top.



3066

Relationship to Illinois

I am 26 years old and have lived in Illinois all my life. I'm very proud to be from Peoria/Pekin, and I enjoy living here. I'm very proud of our state's history and heritage, and I love all of our state symbols. I very much enjoy our state's places of natural beauty, and most of the cities, towns, and places here. I have a tattoo of Illinois on my ankle, and I kept an Illinois flag with me while I was deployed



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 4 stripes represent both the 4 great rivers that shape Illinois (Mississippi, Illinois, Ohio, Wabash), but also the 4 peoples/nations that have governed us (Native Peoples, France, Britain, and America). 21 stars for Illinois' place in the Union, and the position of the cardinal, the presence of a ring representing the sun, and the white field pay homage to the original flag. The cardinal our state bird on a representation of a mound, has a corn stalk in its beak, for our well known product.

3067

Relationship to Illinois

This submission is from my son and his 2 classmates, who are in 5th grade in Rock Island, IL. My relationship to Illinois is that I live here and was born here. I love my state and I'm a huge fan of all it does for me. It's the best place I've ever been and ever plan to be. () I live here and was born here () I live here and was born here ()



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Abraham Lincoln on a tractor on route 66, with the Willis tower and some other buildings in the back. Blue sky with some clouds, also in the background.

3068

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Winnetka, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The circle with the star inside is around the place where Illinois is located. The wheat surrounding the circle slightly on the inside means Illinois's agriculture and farming. The blue stripe is the lakes. The green part represents the nature of Illinois. The red part shows the courage of Illinois residents. The white represents purity. The star show all the four aspects linked together.



3069

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a Chicagoan for 28 years and now I live in the Northern Suburbs for the past 3 years now. I have been in Illinois my whole life. I love Chicago, I love Illinois and I'm honored to show you my designs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Shield is related to the 1876 shield. 102 blue points outside the green circle that represent the 102 Counties in Illinois. Green is all the land and Illinois being the leading agricultural state in the US. Blue is for lakes and rivers including Lake Michigan and Mississippi River. 12 Stars surround the main star in the middle which Illinois became the 13th founded State. 21 star points represents the State of the Union. 1818 is when Illinois was founded. Gold is for being the Prairie State.



3070

Relationship to Illinois

I am ten years old and I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The shape of my flag is the shape of Illinois and I put the bean on my flag because it represents a part of Illinois. It is light blue for the lake. I put the state nickname the prairie state on it.



3071

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois has mixed experiences, memories, and emotions. From the bustling streets of Chicago to the serene landscapes of the countryside, I've found a deep connection to this state. The vibrant culture, rich history, and diverse communities have shaped my perspective in many ways.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I decided to add the cardinal and violet because Illinois's nature is fascinating and I wanted to represent that. I decided to add the Land of Lincoln ribbon because Abraham Lincoln is an important part of Illinois History.



3072

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. Most of my dad's side of the family lives here and some of my mom's side of the family too. I am a student in 8th grade at Spring Wood Middle School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew a red cardinal to represent our state bird and put a violet as our state flower. If you were to look at the bottom of the cardinal's body you will see 1818, that is when Illinois became a state. There are four stars on the branch the cardinal is sitting on to represent Fort Dearborn, the Great Chicago Fire, and the third and fourth star stand for the two world fairs that took place in Chicago.



3073

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of the United States. I was born in Chicago Illinois and I've lived here for sixteen years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Northern Cardinal Illinois was the first of seven states to select the northern cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) as its State Bird. The cardinal was chosen in 1929. Illinois schoolchildren voted for the State Bird. Star Large star, representing Illinois's position as the 21st state to join the Union. White oak tree It is Illinois state tree Bald eagle The bald eagle perched on the rock represents power, strength, determination, and protection. Violet Illinois State Flower



3074

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here for seven years and am a current resident. I have a deep connection to Illinois through going to many different parts of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has 21 stars to represent Illinois being the 21st state, deep blue to represent Lake Michigan, and light blue and green for the sky over the prairies of Illinois.



3075

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a Chicagoan for 28 years and now I live in the Northern Suburbs for the past 3 years now. I have been in Illinois my whole life. I love Chicago, I love Illinois and I'm honored to show you my designs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Shield is from the present flag. 102 white star points are the 102 Counties in Illinois. Green is all the land and Illinois being the leading agricultural state in the US. Blue is for lakes and rivers including Lake Michigan and Mississippi River. 12 Stars surround the main star in the middle which Illinois became the 13th founded State. 21 blue star points represents the State of the Union. 1818 is when Illinois was founded. Gold is for being the Prairie State.



3076

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for basically my whole life. Only my family lives here, not any others. I love the original flag, the flag redesigning was a great idea. I am also a student at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag redesign includes the state's bird and flower. I made this redesign since the state's bird is the cardinal bird and I thought this would be a good thing to add. I also added the violet flower, the flower and the bird was a huge part of my flag redesign. It does have connections to Illinois. I also added a branch for the cardinal bird to show the bird was on a branch of a tree. I did add the text that says Illinois.



3077

Relationship to Illinois

I am [REDACTED], I am 13 years old in 7th grade. I live in Lockport and have all my life. My social studies teacher told us about this and I immediately wanted to take part. Even if my flag does not get picked I will still be glad that I participated. I spent two days planning out what I was going to put on my flag design and one night, after I finished all my homework, I started sketching out my design and worked for two hours to finish it, I'm very proud of what I created.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design consists of a white background and four main elements. On the bottom in capital orange letters is the word Illinois and its orange because of the Illinois university colors. On top of the first capital I is a sky scraper because of the Willis tower in Chicago and also, Illinois was the first state with a sky scraper. In the middle is the head of Abraham Lincoln because he grew up in Illinois. On the right is a male cardinal sitting on a branch because of the state bird.



3078

Relationship to Illinois

I've been an Illinoisan for 58 years. I grew up in the far western suburbs of Chicago. In my early teens I detassled corn for a summer. In my opinion this was a right of passage for an Illinois kid. While I was within an hour's drive of the city and all it offered, I also enjoyed easy access to the farmland and more rural areas. As a cyclist, the open spaces and farmland were the perfect backdrop to many a ride. I can attest that Illinois is not completely flat...gears were indeed used.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the blue field on the left are 20 stars to represent the states that existed when Illinois entered the Union. The blue star in the white field has 16 points in honor of the 16th President, Abraham Lincoln. Inside that star is a 5 point star that represents Illinois becoming the 21st state.

3079

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a Chicagoan for 28 years and now I live in the Northern Suburbs for the past 3 years now. I have been in Illinois my whole life. I love Chicago, I love Illinois and I'm honored to show you my designs.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Shield is from the present flag. Green is all the land and Illinois being the leading agricultural state in the US. Blue is for lakes and rivers including Lake Michigan and Mississippi River. 12 Stars surround the main star in the middle which Illinois became the 13th founded State. 21 blue star points represents the State of the Union. 1818 is when Illinois was founded. Gold is for being the Prairie State. The 13 pointed star represents the Centennial flag.

3080

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I live in Illinois. It is a beautiful place.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It represents Illinois. It shows a variety of the state of Illinois symbols of which its known for.



3081

Relationship to Illinois

I am 60 years old and a lifetime resident of central Illinois. I was born in Peoria, Illinois, grew up in Washington, Illinois and have lived in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois for approximately 36 years. I graduated from Illinois State University and worked for State Farm in Bloomington as a graphic designer for 32 years. I am recently retired.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is 1 of 3 designs I am submitting. This design is a reflection of the original flag design circular shape of the graphics and its patriotic feel. However, the new design proposal:-is a much simpler, bolder graphic representation of the state of Illinois- includes the state itself for easy identification-includes the founding date of Illinois- contains 21 stars to represent being the 21st state adopted into the union



3082

Relationship to Illinois

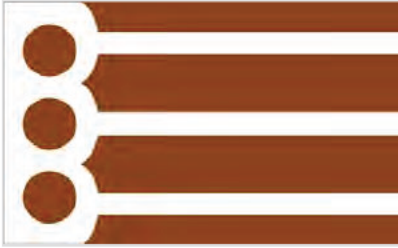
I am a born-and-raised Illinoisan from the northwest suburbs of Chicago, but I have been all over the state. I'm proud of and inspired by our state's exceptional dedication to innovation, creativity, and community, so I was eager to even have the chance to participate in this commission. One of my favorite things about living in Illinois is that we get to experience the beautiful scenery of its prairies and forests but also have access to world-class arts and entertainment.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The primary element in this design is the use of Frank Lloyd Wright's signature Prairie Style. Wright's revolutionary art style captures Illinois' simultaneous connections to nature and modernity, and after all, it is the Prairie State. The colors elicit a sense of openness and peace, which are core values of the state's people. They also reflect our scenery: the largest corn producer of any state and deeply rooted in the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, blue and yellow represent our spirit.



3083



Relationship to Illinois

My grandparents, parents and I were all born and raised in East St Louis, IL.
Graduate of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is a stylized log cabin in white and brown. Three visible log ends represent the three capital cities Illinois has had. The white background references the old Illinois state flag. Brown represents the woodlands and croplands, the rich soil that supports our agriculture and resilience and dependability.

3084



Relationship to Illinois

I was raised in Illinois. I went to law school here and plan to spend my life here. I take my oath as an Illinois attorney next month! I've traveled from New York to Los Angeles, and there's no place in the world I'd rather be. Chicago is my favorite city to visit and Southern Illinois will always be my home. I would love to play a part in creating the future of this great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to create something minimalistic but was instantly recognizable and retains the character that defines IL. I decided to keep the white background, as I think it is a perfect backdrop that is instantly recognizable as IL. It also serves as a representation of "The White City" and matches the Chicago city flag. The yellow wheat represents IL agriculture. The eagle is from the state seal, representing protection and strength. It demonstrates the fighting spirit that all IL citizens share.

3085

Relationship to Illinois

Hello commissioners. I hope this finds you well. My name is Jacob Bowers, and the Bowers family has called this state home for many generations. I for one grew up outside Scott AFB in Mascoutah IL. and can proudly claim to be the third generation from my family to graduate from SIU Carbondale. As a student, I served as SIUC's Human Relations Commissioner for the city of Carbondale. While I have moved away in preparation to become a Space Force Officer, I will always consider Illinois to be home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The wavy blue vertical bar mirrors how the Mississippi River forms our western border and represents the state's transportation industry. The white background evokes the great plains of the prairie state and echoes the previous state flag. The circle of red stars indicates Illinois's position as the 21st state and the many sacrifices it made to preserve the union. The six-pointed star symbolizes Chicago's significance, and the fleur-de-lis embodies the state's history and agricultural renown.

3086

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and I have lived here almost all my life. Mainly my mom's side of the family lives in Illinois but my dad has some family here too. My father, Robin Rozo has served in the Air Force since I was a little girl. I am an 8th grade student who attends Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Illinois state flag has a Cardinal because that is the state bird, it also has two silver buckets, one filled with the gold rush apple and the other one is sweet corn. On the White Oak stump is the number 1818, the year Illinois officially became a state. The background includes an American flag and the entire, central image is encased in a gold decorative oval. I picked the blue for the outside because I do not like how our current flag is just white around the eagle.



3087

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Waukegan, Illinois and am proud to call Rockford, Illinois my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

While my flag is minimalistic, I hope it portrays the diversity and beauty of Illinois.



3088

Relationship to Illinois

I've been an Illinoisan for 58 years. I grew up in the far western suburbs of Chicago.

In my early teens I detassled corn for a summer. In my opinion this was a right of passage for an Illinois kid. While I was within an hour's drive of the city and all it offered, I also enjoyed easy access to the farmland and more rural areas. As a cyclist, the open spaces and farmland were the perfect backdrop to many a ride. I can attest that Illinois is not completely flat...gears were indeed used.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the blue field on the left are 20 stars to represent the states that existed when Illinois entered the Union. The blue star in the white field has 16 points in honor of the 16th President, Abraham Lincoln. Inside that star is a 5 point star that represents Illinois becoming the 21st state.



3089

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Waukegan, Illinois and am proud to call Rockford, Illinois my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

While my flag is minimalistic, I hope it portrays the diversity and beauty of Illinois.



3090

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Waukegan, Illinois and am proud to call Rockford, Illinois my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

While my flag is minimalistic, I hope it portrays the diversity and beauty of Illinois.

3091



Relationship to Illinois

Lincoln (age 8) has resided in the Land of Lincoln his entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tower is the Illinois State Capitol Building. The red cardinal on the tower represents the state bird. It says "Land of Lincoln," the state slogan. I came up with the design and had assistance from a friend who is an adult.

3092



Relationship to Illinois

Hello commissioners. I hope this finds you well. My name is Jacob Bowers, and the Bowers family has called this state home for many generations. I for one grew up outside Scott AFB in Mascoutah IL. and can proudly claim to be the third generation from my family to graduate from SIU Carbondale. As a student, I served as SIUC's Human Relations Commissioner for the city of Carbondale. While I have moved away in preparation to become a Space Force Officer, I will always consider Illinois to be home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white background evokes the great plains of the prairie state, while the gold represents Illinois' agricultural heritage and economic strength. The rising diagonal line embodies the state's drive toward progress and innovation. The circle of stars indicates Illinois' position as the 21st state and the black outlines symbolize our resilience and strength. The central six-pointed star signifies Chicago's role as a hub of commerce and culture, and the fleur-de-lis reflects the state's history.

3093

Relationship to Illinois

I am 60 years old and a lifetime resident of central Illinois. I was born in Peoria, Illinois, grew up in Washington, Illinois and have lived in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois for approximately 36 years. I graduated from Illinois State University and worked for State Farm in Bloomington as a graphic designer for 32 years. I am recently retired.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is 2 of 3 designs I am submitting. This design is a departure from the patriotic feel of the original flag. This design focuses on the beautiful landscape Illinois was known for as settlers moved west. The new design proposal:-Has the Illinois name on it for easy identification-Contains the slogan The Prairie State-Contains a graphic representation of the wild prairie- The color scheme reflects the wild prairie



3094

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Springfield, IL in 2014. My parents were born in Springfield, too. I'm apart of the Local Theater Community. I am also involved with Cub Scout Troop 97 with many local community service actions. The places to go to, too! You can go to the State Fair, the Henson Robinson Zoo, and many more! That is my wonderful relationship with the great Illinois!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag shows that you CAN do ANYTHING. You HAVE the strength to do it. You CAN have dreams. Have Courage. Be the light to guide someone lost in the dark. Stand out. Do what you want to do and let no one change that. Freedom is a thing. That is my meaning behind my flag.



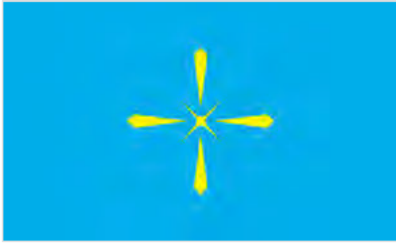
3095

Relationship to Illinois

While I was born in Indiana and raised in Wisconsin, Illinois has never been far from my heart. It has been the place of many childhood trips, and the state where my wife was born. We even got married in the State of Illinois, and continuously got entertained by Chicago sports radio. We often visit my Father-in-law and have many family get-togethers. Illinois is often like a second home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Flag represents an interpretation of the state flower against field blue to show the relationship with Illinois and the importance of Lake Michigan and all of the different rivers to the state. The yellow is a representation of agriculture and prairie land in the state, and I've represented the Native American people with the 4 arrowhead shapes. Our center "smart" star is meant to focus Illinois on the future. There are also 20 points on the flag to show preceding states in the union.



3096

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 7th grade student at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag shows an eagle which is the United States bird and a cardinal which is the Illinois state bird flying through the mountains together and is saying that "We Are One", which means we are a part of the United States. The dates mean the same thing that the original flag meant.



3097

Relationship to Illinois

Hello commissioners. I hope this finds you well. My name is Jacob Bowers, and the Bowers family has called this state home for many generations. I for one grew up outside Scott AFB in Mascoutah IL. and can proudly claim to be the third generation from my family to graduate from SIU Carbondale. As a student, I served as SIUC's Human Relations Commissioner for the city of Carbondale. While I have moved away in preparation to become a Space Force Officer, I will always consider Illinois to be home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue bars represent the impact of the great Mississippi and Lake Michigan upon the state. The gold background evokes the great plains of the prairie state and, along with the golden sun, represents the state's agricultural heritage and economic strength. The circle of stars indicates Illinois's position as the 21st state, and the centrally located six-pointed star signifies Chicago's role as a hub of commerce and culture. Lastly, the fleur-de-lis reflects the state's illustrious history.

3098

Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Chicago submitting one of my student's flag designs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the 3 blue stripes represent our three major bodies of water: the Mississippi River, the Illinois River, and Lake Michigan. the 21 stars are referencing Illinois position as the 21st state.



3099

Relationship to Illinois

I live and work in the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue is the sky, and is the same color as the blue is the same blue as on the Chicago flag which is a nod to Illinois' largest city. The green is a soybean field, which represents how Illinois is the #1 producer of soybeans in the US. The yellow is a corn field on the horizon, which represents how Illinois is the #2 producer of corn in the US. The star is the sun, which also represents the star Illinois gets on the union flag.



3100

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is where I landed arriving the US. I am living here since. My daughter is born here. I would not change for another State except if forced to do so, I love the city and love the State, my family love being here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

2 vertical blue line for Mississippi West and Lake Michigan East. In the center, the American Eagle in a native American version to link with the name of the state (coming from native American language) and the current historical flag. Around the Eagle, 21 stars to remind the 21st State of the USA. 1 of those is the Chicago star to symbolize the biggest City of the state and the most known.



3101

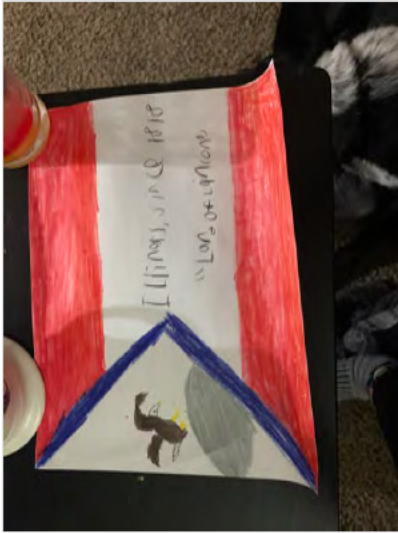
Relationship to Illinois

I am a 7th grade student at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There is farmland in the middle because Illinois is known for its rich farmland. There's corn growing because Illinois grows lots of corn. There is a bald eagle because that's the national bird of America, and there's the American flag in the bottom left corner.





3102

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bald Eagle on the Chicago Bean

3103

Relationship to Illinois

My son, [REDACTED] ski (the designer of this flag) is a sophomore in high school living in [REDACTED] Illinois (born in Chicago). His main hobby is vexillology. When he saw that there would be a contest to redesign the flag of Illinois, he immediately started making designs. [REDACTED] is proud of Illinois, and he wants the state to have a flag that people can acknowledge as a good flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue triangle in the canton represents Lake Michigan. The blue rectangle at the bottom represents the Mississippi River. The white bands represent Illinois' wide variety of cities and towns. The rich green background represents the rural agricultural culture of Illinois, and its vast prairies. The central red star represents the state's sovereignty (as in the state motto). It's also a reference to Chicago and Springfield (their flags have red stars), and is the color of the state bird.

3104

Relationship to Illinois

I am 60 years old and a lifetime resident of central Illinois. I was born in Peoria, Illinois, grew up in Washington, Illinois and have lived in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois for approximately 36 years. I graduated from Illinois State University and worked for State Farm in Bloomington as a graphic designer for 32 years. I am recently retired.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is 3 of 3 designs I am submitting. This design is a reflection of the geographical diversity of Illinois as stated by State Sen. Doris Turner, who sponsored Senate Bill 1818 in an article on NBC 5 in Chicago. The new design proposal: -Contains the word Illinois for easy identification -Contains an interlocking graphic and color palette to reflect the urban, suburban and rural communities



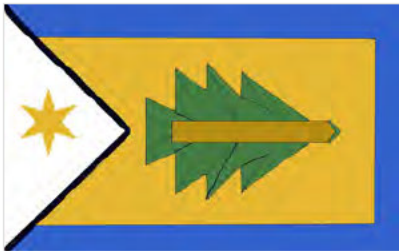
3105

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here for over 10 years and I genuinely love living here and respect what we represent in America

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design reflects Illinois' natural and cultural heritage. The yellow background represents the state's prairies and rich agricultural history. A green oak leaf at the center honors the white oak, Illinois' state tree, symbolizing strength and resilience, with a design inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright's prairie-style architecture. The blue border signifies the state's defining rivers, while the gold star represents Chicago's leadership. Together, these elements celebrate Illinois' unique l



3106

Relationship to Illinois

My son, [REDACTED] (the designer of this flag) is a sophomore in high school living in [REDACTED], Illinois (born in Chicago). His main hobby is vexillology. When he saw that there would be a contest to redesign the flag of Illinois, he immediately started making designs. [REDACTED] is proud of Illinois, and he wants the state to have a flag that people can acknowledge as a good flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue triangles represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The white triangle represent Illinois' wide variety of cities and towns. The rich green chevron represents the rural agricultural culture of Illinois, and its vast prairies. The left-central red star represents the state's sovereignty (as in the state motto). It's also a reference to Chicago and Springfield (their flags have red stars), and is the color of the state bird.

3107

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My idea was mainly centered around Chicago, because that is somewhere popular in Illinois. The bald eagle is something that caught my eye in the current flag of Illinois. The USA flag shows that Illinois is in America. I added a sunset for more detail and to show how beautiful our state can be. I know it said only three colors, but it needed more of a story.



3108

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and I recently moved to the state

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white background symbolizes the unity of the state, while the four blue stars represent its northern, eastern, and western divisions. The three central lines signify Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and the Chicago River*three important waterways in Illinois. Above these elements is an eagle, the national animal of the United States.



3109

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here for over 10 years. I genuinely love living here and respect what this state represents in America.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois' geography, history, and the balance between nature and urban life. The blue swooping line symbolizes key waterways like the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, essential for the state's development. The green section reflects Illinois' vast farmlands and agricultural strength, while the white symbolizes hope and new beginnings. The red star honors Chicago, the state's cultural and economic hub, linking to its leadership and innovation. Together, the design celebrates



3110

Relationship to Illinois

My son, [REDACTED] (the designer of this flag) is a sophomore in high school living in [REDACTED] Illinois (born in Chicago). His main hobby is vexillology. When he saw that there would be a contest to redesign the flag of Illinois, he immediately started making designs. [REDACTED] is proud of Illinois, and he wants the state to have a flag that people can acknowledge as a good flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue triangle represents Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The white triangle represent Illinois' wide variety of cities and towns. The rich green band represents the rural agricultural culture of Illinois, and its vast prairies. The top left red star represents the state's sovereignty (as in the state motto). It's also a reference to Chicago and Springfield (their flags have red stars), and is the color of the state bird.

3111

Relationship to Illinois

For 23 years, I've called Illinois home, specifically West Chicago. Moving here at age 2, I've made plenty of memories. I attended Gary Elementary, Leman Middle School, and WCCHS. Now, I'm on a journey to become a Zoologist at the College of DuPage. My love for animals and nature, definitely grew by visiting many of Illinois' 607 forest preserves. I also enjoy Chicago's attractions like the Centennial Wheel, Shedd Aquarium, Lincoln Park Zoo, and the Field Museum. I hope to visit Springfield!



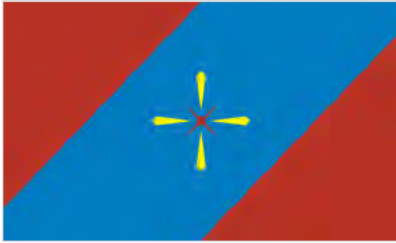
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and white represent Illinois' colors. Inspired by the Springfield flag, I added 21 stars for Illinois being the 21st state, with the top star symbolizing Springfield. The center features a white-tailed deer, the state animal above water representing Lake Michigan, the Illinois River, etc. Prairie hills & grass represent the Prairie State, while trees symbolize forest preserves, with an oak tree for the state tree. To honor the current flag I included a sun with rays & a cardinal & motto

3112

Relationship to Illinois

While I was born in Indiana and raised in Wisconsin, Illinois has never been far from my heart. It has been the place of many childhood trips, and the state where my wife was born. We even got married in the State of Illinois, and continuously got entertained by Chicago sports radio. We often visit my Father-in-law and have many family get-togethers. Illinois is often like a second home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag shows blue sash to proclaim a confection to the water that unites the people. Set upon the red backdrop the iconic cardinal red, a symbol of universities and our the state bird, a northern cardinal. The center draws the eye to the shape of a purple violet, represented by inward facing arrowheads and a red star in the center. The yellow shows Illinois' connection to agriculture, while the star represents a future of endless possibilities.

3113

Relationship to Illinois

I currently live in Illinois and really enjoy the place.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is the shape of Illinois and is divided into two halves, day and night. The flag reads Illinois and Land of Lincoln while the day has water to represent Illinois' water body heritage. It also has navy pier, which is a significant place. The day has the Chicago skyline and the moon to represent glory. The stars indicate Illinois' diversity and everything in the shape of illinois, represents its unity. It is a simple design based on a themed color palette.



3114

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Chicago, I have resided in Illinois ever since. I'm a proud employee of the Chicago Botanic Garden. In high school, my debate team took me across the state. We'd ride our bus past pumpkin patches, cornfields, and amber waves of grain, stopping in towns all along the way. My first job was at Steak 'n Shake (est. 1934 in Normal, IL). Whether it's visiting the Lincoln Library in Springfield, watching war reenactments in Rockford, or taking the "L" to catch a ballgame, I love my home state.



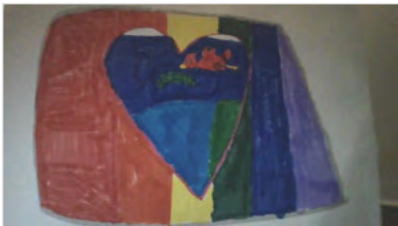
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange "rails" resemble a split-rail fence thereby representing LincolnTop and bottom blue bars = Illinois & Mississippi RiversLarger, central blue stripe = Lake MichiganThe 3 divisions also represent North, Central, and South ILWhite chevron = The steel plow (an Illinois invention) representing our proud agricultural and manufacturing historyWhite Oak Leaf = State tree of IL. In autumn, the leaves turn orange.Orange (additionally) = PumpkinsRatio = 3:5Pantone 534 C, Pantone 1505 C

3115

Relationship to Illinois

My daughter was born and is being raised in Illinois. She is proud to be part of this state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

These are Lily's (submitter) words: My flag has our state bird, a lake to represent all of our lakes, it is a rainbow to show that everyone is important, there is a heart because we love Illinois, and a symbol of peace by the cardinal.

3116



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the bodies of water in Illinois, like Lake Michigan. The gold represents justice. It also resembles the color of the corn Illinois produces. The six-point star shows the importance of Chicago as a city in Illinois. The white represents the cleanliness that Illinois has.

3117



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 4 years and I'm proud of it as it is probably my favorite state. My extended family lives in a different country but some of my family lives in Illinois like me. My grandpa had served in the military as I'm sure he's a proud person cause this state is amazing. I am an 8th grade student at Spring Wood Middle School. I may not have amazing drawing talent or any at all but I am determined to proudly represent Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features a proud eagle, symbolizing strength and freedom, holding an American shield at its center. The shield represents Illinois' loyalty to the United States, while the eagle reflects the state's spirit of resilience and independence. The design draws inspiration from Illinois' state seal, emphasizing its deep historical roots and connection to the nation's founding principles, echoing the state's motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union."

3118

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Joliet, raised and still reside in New Lenox. Additionally I went down to college in Edwardsville at SIUE where I had obtained my Bachelor's degree.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Gold: The state's agriculture, the stripes also give the allusion of the side of a log cabin to represent Lincoln. Blue: The waters of Illinois, with the stripes representing the Mississippi, Wabash, and Ohio Rivers. The pile represents Lake Michigan and also has the general shape of Illinois. White: Unity, the stars represent Northern, Central, Southern Illinois, & Chicago. Together they have 21 points for the 21st state. Also it has design inspiration from both the Centennial and US flags.



3119

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. My family ever since coming to the US has lived in Illinois all of their lives and this is the place where I have grown up, received my education, and currently live and starting my education career.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For this first design I wanted to bring a modern change to the current flag. I wanted to keep what was original and important to our original flag, while pushing towards our modern way of design. The concept of the same eagle in a modern look, the sun setting to represent the great lake Michigan, the 21 stars to represent the 21st state, the grain to represent the agricultural state. Staying true to who we are as a state and our flag, but bring up into the modern.



3120

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. My family ever since coming to the US has lived in Illinois all of their lives and this is the place where I have grown up, received my education, and currently live and starting my education career.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For this first design I wanted to bring a modern change to the current flag. I wanted to keep what was original and important to our original flag, while pushing towards our modern way of design. The concept of the same eagle in a modern look, the sun setting to represent the great lake Michigan, the 21 stars to represent the 21st state, the grain to represent the agricultural state. Staying true to who we are as a state and our flag, but bring up into the modern.



3121

Relationship to Illinois

While I originally moved to Illinois for work, I have developed a deep and abiding affection for the state and people of Illinois, and am proud to call it home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is a tribute to both our nation and the great state of Illinois. Featuring 21 stars, it symbolizes Illinois' admission as the 21st state into the Union. The eagle in flight serves as a powerful reminder of the strength and courage of our past, while also pointing forward, representing the future potential and progress we strive to achieve.



3122

Relationship to Illinois

I've been a resident to the Chicago Suburbs ever since I was born and am being raised here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red, white, and blue color scheme represents our country. The white oak represents not only the state tree but our ability to grow and develop not only as a state but as a society. The circles representing our ability to connect and unite together. The tree also highlights the natural beauty of the state.



3123

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here for over 10 years. I genuinely love living here and respect what Illinois represents for America.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green background symbolizes Illinois' fertile landscape, highlighting its agricultural strength and rural areas. The white oak, our state tree, represents strength, endurance, and longevity, qualities that are deeply rooted in our history and people; and it conveys a sense of stability and growth. The blue border represents vital waterways like the Mississippi and Lake Michigan, while the red star within a white triangle honors Chicago's leadership and influence.



3124

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 11 years with my family but all of my cousins and grandparents live in Poland. I am a student in 6th grade at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park and I love Illinois because it is really pretty here and it's really fun living here. One of my favorite places in Illinois is Oakbrook Mall because it has a lot of stores and an escape room. I'm also so glad I live in Illinois because I got to meet all of my friends.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my flag I wrote Illinois more towards the bottom in a ribbon like box and on the ribbon I drew a picture of the city skyline and The Bean (Cloud Gate) to represent Chicago because I think Chicago is a perfect city for Illinois. Next to it I drew a purple violet to represent the state flower. And on the other side I drew a red cardinal because it is the state bird.



3125

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. It is where my family has lived their entire life. This is where I grew up, lived, went to school, and where I am starting my career in education.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is my second submission and similar to the first. I want to keep it close and keep the concepts of the original while bringing it into the modern. The symbols of the eagle, the sun setting over the great lake Michigan, the grain, the 21 stars for the 21st state and the banner in the Eagles mouth from the original flag. Blending the old with the new and holding the respect for the old flag while creating a new path for a fresh design.



3126



Relationship to Illinois

I am submitting these designs for my 14 year old son. We are residents of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The black strip in the middle of the flag represents the urban areas of Illinois such as Chicago and Springfield. Because Illinois is the prairie state the green was added. Also, green represents diversity. The yellow on the exterior represents corn, as Illinois is one of the biggest producers of corn in the United States.

3127



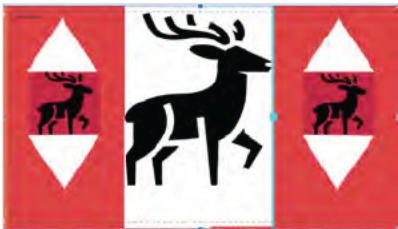
Relationship to Illinois

I am a Junior in Highschool currently. I have been living in Illinois for 12 years, along with my family. We have travelled throughout Illinois and seen the cities, suburbs, and rural areas. We love the scenery and comfort of Illinois as well. We feel at home in Illinois. I have always wanted to contribute in some way to Illinois and my community, and this is a perfect opportunity.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are 20 stars that surround the 21st star, which represents Illinois, as it is the 21st state. The 21st star has a gold lining to represent the boldness and impact of Illinois on the United States. The blue stripe represents the rivers and lakes of the state, such as the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The white stripes stands for the mixture of all races and ethnicities, as Illinois is a very diverse state.

3128



Relationship to Illinois

I live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

it has the state animal which is a deer and i put stars on it which is on the current flag but I changed it up so it can be different but also people can know were its from

3129

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Rockford, Illinois, it is the only home that I've known for 20 years. I enjoy car rides and going wherever the road takes me which often means I see the beauty of living in Illinois. I've visited other cities outside of Rockford, and one of my most frequent places to visit is Chicago. While I love the city vibes, I can also appreciate the miles of farmland that thrives in the sunlight and glows under the stars come nighttime. To me, Illinois is breathtaking.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is known as the prairie state, hence the field in the background*the state bird which is the northern cardinal; symbolizes love, loyalty, and strength. The black top hat is to honor the late 16th president Abraham Lincoln who helped make Illinois the state it is today. The pumpkin is a nod to Morton, IL being the Pumpkin Capitol of the world. There are 21 leaves to symbolize Illinois being the 21st state. 1818 - the year IL became a state. 1868 - the Great Seal of IL redesign.

3130

Relationship to Illinois

I lived here for 11 or 10 years, most of my family lived here either in my house or they bought their own house. My mom has worked at Insight for 12 or more years. I am an 11 year old student at Spring Wood Middle School. I went to Greenbrook Elementary School for 6 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

On the flag I put our own state flower, tree and fruit, when Illinois was created, and I also put who found it, so I was going to put the outline of Illinois but I forgot when I already got done drawing it in the flag. I have seen most people put the bird just like on the old flag, so I didn't put that on there.

3131

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifetime resident of Illinois. My father came from Greece and my mother came from Poland, and they both settled in this great state. I was born and raised here. As a freelance graphic designer and artist, I've built my business here and have had the opportunity to meet and work with many fellow residents. As an expecting mother, I'm excited to raise my family here. I have never found another place that feels more like home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My goal was to share the culture, values, & landscape of Illinois. The sun represents our welcoming mid-western culture, the water is a nod to Lake Michigan & the Mississippi River, & I could not represent Illinois without a depiction of the crops that cover much of the land. The eagle acts as a nod to our current flag - showing that we honor & build upon our rich history. But in this new design, the eagle faces forward - showing the ways in which we also focus on growth & the future.

3132

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois all my life (63 years). It's been a wonderful place to live and raise a family. We've lived most of our lives in the Chicago suburbs. Illinois is such a big state with different regions. One lifetime is not enough to explore it all. I wanted to have a flag design that emphasized the WHOLE state. A design that could bring us together and we could all be proud of, so I settled on an outline of the state. It's a great shape and should make us proud. I hope you like it.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Behind the shape of our state is an Illinois horizon. The green represents the lushness of our state whether agriculture, prairie, or woodland. It's a feature we should never take for granted. The yellow streak is the bright promise that every new day brings in Illinois. It's also the color of corn and goldenrod. The blue is our gorgeous horizon and our limitless possibilities. The clean white state is ready to hold all our ambitions. I tried to make it bright, clean and hopefully memorable.

3133

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Chicago, I have resided in Illinois ever since. I'm a proud employee of the Chicago Botanic Garden. In high school, my debate team took me across the state. We'd ride our bus past pumpkin patches, cornfields, and amber waves of grain, stopping in towns all along the way. My first job was at Steak 'n Shake (est. 1934 in Normal, IL). Whether it's visiting the Lincoln Library in Springfield, watching war reenactments in Rockford, or taking the "L" to catch a ballgame, I love my home state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange "rails" resemble a split-rail fence thereby representing LincolnTop and bottom blue bars = Illinois & Mississippi RiversLarger, central blue stripe = Lake MichiganWhite chevron = The steel plow (an Illinois invention) representing our proud agricultural and manufacturing historySix-pointed star = The state's major metropolitan areas (separate points but all connected to create a shining beauty)Orange (additionally) = Pumpkins & AutumnRatio = 3:5Pantone 534 C, Pantone 1505 C

3134

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. My family isn't from America, more so Mexico, however my dad's siblings do live here. My aunt for example has 4 kids which are all older than me. I have two uncles but one is living in Houston, Texas. My other uncle lives near my family and my aunt. He has one kid who I adore and love to see and hangout with her. My great-grandfather served in the Mexican military. Despite my culture, America has brought great happiness and opportunities.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a northern cardinal right in the middle and purple violets surrounding it. There are also strips of different designs and colors. I drew the cardinal because it is our state bird and is bright and Illinois needs that. The purple violets were a pretty detail that was found to be a representative of Illinois. The strips of different designs and colors were the most unique way I could think of to represent America as a whole. Each section represents the problems going around the world.

3135

Relationship to Illinois

I was Born in Virginia and moved to Illinois at the age of 3. I continue to be a citizen of the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag encompasses the colors of the harvested maize, green for the husk and yellow for the cob, the best part of the corn. The star symbolizes the capital of Illinois, Springfield. The yellow can also be recognized as the rough shape of the state of Illinois, with the yellow symbolizing the product of hard work: Harvest. In addition to this, the green color of the outside symbolizes our dependency on the other states to be successful, Just like the cob depends on the husk to protect it.



3136

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, growing up mostly in with my mother in Harwood Heights but also spending significant chunks of my childhood with my father in Avondale. In high school, we moved out to Schaumburg and I went to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to get my Bachelor's Degree in Global Studies. Illinois will always be my home, and I visit several times a year to see family and catch up with childhood friends.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

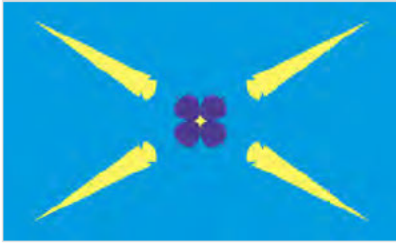
A 12pt star represents the 12 founding tribes of the Illinois Confederation; red for love/heart of the land and the northern cardinal. The blue stripe represents the mighty Mississippi River and the golden band represents the state's agriculture, specifically corn. Each central star represents Illinois' historic past; New France, Province of Quebec, Northwest Territory, Indiana Territory, Illinois Territory. Finally, the top right star is IL statehood; white for unity set on blue Lake Michigan.



3137

Relationship to Illinois

While I was born in Indiana and raised in Wisconsin, Illinois has never been far from my heart. It has been the place of many childhood trips, and the state where my wife was born. We even got married in the State of Illinois, and continuously got entertained by Chicago sports radio. We often visit my Father-in-law and have many family get-togethers. Illinois is often like a second home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois was built by its relationship to water and its agricultural resources. This flag design shows the relationship to the lakes, rivers, and streams with a bright blue background. The state's vast prairie landscape is depicted by the color yellow. There are four arrow rays from the center blue violet, this depicts Illinois as a hub in the USA and shows a connection to the Native people. There are 20 points to show the states preceding Illinois, and center star for a path to the future.

3138

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and grew up in Wood Dale. I have spent my whole life exploring Illinois from Chicago to Shawnee National Forest. It is an honor to be a part of this.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

-The design reflects Illinois' nickname, The Prairie State-The rising sun symbolizes its rays over the vast prairies & takes inspiration from the old state flag's sun-The two stars represent the connection between rural and urban populations-The 21 points in the sun and stars signify Illinois as the 21st state in the Union-The line beneath the sun represents the Mississippi river-Gold represents the abundance of agriculture-Royal blue represents Lake Michigan and the USA flag

3139

Relationship to Illinois

I have grown up in Illinois my whole life in a rural town of barely 500 people, far away from any city.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to represent in individuality of our mixing pot of a state. My four stars at left side of my flag show how similar things are but the colors give them their own personality. In my circle I have the Chicago skyscrapers and the Western fields with the Mississippi on the side. There is also a bald eagle and a one leg white take deer to show courageousness in our actions of moving forward and thriving.



3140

Relationship to Illinois

I live in St. Louis, about a mile from the Illinois border, so Illinois is in my metro region.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The golden sun-with-rays motif is based on the similar image in the current state flag. I believe it represents hope and prosperity. The blue top stands for possibilities (the sky) and life (water). The green and white stripes represent the land/



3141

Relationship to Illinois

I currently live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is simple, and in the ring, are waves of water, which indicate Illinois' heritage and prosperity over water bodies. The background is gold to show the states' wealth and prosperity and there is a sun to show a land where everyday is a new day. The text says the name and Land of Lincoln. The 7 stars show the initial 7 cities of Illinois and the purple violets are the state flower. 21 on the bottom indicates that Illinois was the 21st state to be formed in the United States.



3142



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a resident of Illinois. I was born in Illinois, I have lived here all of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The corn is to represent the fact that Illinois is one of the top four most corn producing states in the US. The rock has the date of 1: 1818 and 2: 1868. 1: the year Illinois became a state. 2: The year the Great Seal was redesigned.

3143



Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago, where the city's energy and diversity shaped me. But it was the trips to Southern Illinois to visit family that truly opened my eyes to the beauty and calm of the state's countryside. Later, while studying at Illinois State University (GO Redbirds!), I met people from all over Illinois and grew to deeply appreciate the pride and resilience that defines this state. Illinois is where I found family, community, and a love for both urban and rural life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Illinois flag redesign symbolizes the state's rich agricultural heritage, urban innovation, and natural beauty, while highlighting our unity and strength. The green, gold, and orange stripes represent 3 of Illinois' top grown crops: soybeans, corn, and pumpkins. The five top blue stripes symbolize the Chicago skyline, while the five bottom blue stripes represent the state's rivers. A center blue square honors Lake Michigan, and the woven stripes emphasize diversity and togetherness.

3144

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, growing up mostly in with my mother in Harwood Heights but also spending significant chunks of my childhood with my father in Avondale. In high school, we moved out to Schaumburg and I went to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to get my Bachelor's Degree in Global Studies. Illinois will always be my home, and I visit several times a year to see family and catch up with childhood friends.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A 12pt star represents the 12 founding tribes of the Illinois Confederation. The green stripe represent the the beautiful prairies across the state and the golden band represents the state's agriculture, specifically corn. Each central star represents Illinois' historic past; New France, Province of Quebec, Northwest Territory, Indiana Territory, Illinois Territory. Finally, the top right star is IL statehood; white for unity set on blue to signify the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan.

3145

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the state of Illinois. I was born in Cook County and lived there almost all my life until just almost three years ago when I had to move. I spent most of my life in the state and received most of my education from kindergarten to seventh grade there.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the rivers and lakes of Illinois, freedom and liberty, and the Union. The green represents the prairies and the nature of Illinois. The white represents purity. The three seven-pointed stars have 21 points in total to symbolize that Illinois was the 21st state to enter the Union.

3146

Relationship to Illinois

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3147

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the rivers and lakes of Illinois, freedom and liberty, and the Union. The green represents the prairies and the nature of Illinois. The white represents purity. The red represents courage and valor. The three seven-pointed stars have 21 points in total to symbolize that Illinois was the 21st state to enter the Union.



3148

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL and have lived here most of my life. I currently live in Chicago where I'm a Neurologist at Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, but I've previously lived in other areas and have family scattered across the state (e.g. Peoria, Oak Brook, Decatur, Urbana). My parents immigrated to the US and put down roots in IL due to economic opportunities, and growing up here, I've come to appreciate our state's rich history, culture and landscape!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 middle lines represent northern, central & southern regions of IL. White lines are roads/tracks (referencing transportation/railroad history), and white signifies optimism. Orange represents agriculture. Blue lines are the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The central shape is both an arrowhead (referencing Illinois/Illiniwek tribes) and an abstract prairie plant with the star as flower. The star position also mirrors IL's north-central geographic location in the country.

3149

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Rockford, Illinois, it is the only home that I've known for 20 years. I enjoy car rides and going wherever the road takes me which often means I see the beauty of living in Illinois. I've visited other cities outside of Rockford, and one of my most frequent places to visit is Chicago. While I love the city vibes, I can also appreciate the miles of farmland that thrives in the sunlight and glows under the stars come nighttime. To me, Illinois is breathtaking.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are 21 leaves to symbolize Illinois being the 21st state. 1818 is the year IL became a state and 1868 is the year that the Great Seal of IL was redesigned. The state bird which is the northern cardinal; symbolizes love, and loyalty, and is said to bring strength to those in need*is carrying the state flower the blue-violet which also symbolizes love and faithfulness.

3150

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. My hometown is Girard in Macoupin co. I currently live and work in Urbana Illinois. I am very proud to be Illinoisan and I believe Illinois to be the jewel of the Midwest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have lived in many different places in Illinois that are representative of many different kinds of people, ethnically, politically and otherwise. At the end however, we are all Illinoisans. The meaning of my flag is to represent a patriotic unity of all residents of Illinois. This is represented by the inclusion of a six and five pointed star. The union of these stars creates an eleven pointed star shown in the center. My flag is called the "Prairie Unity Flag"



3151

Relationship to Illinois

I live in St. Louis, about a mile from the Illinois border, so Illinois is in my metro region.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright's design sensibility which I equate with the spirit of Illinois. Blue stands for water and sky. Green is for land and agriculture. The orange circle represents the sun and optimism. The smaller squares represent the cooperation of the human spirit, and the many things we can achieve when we use ingenuity and invention together.



3152

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for almost 12 years. I am a 6th grade student at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made a bridge and a river under it because we have bridges and rivers and lakes. There's a path going up to Illinois and trees around it and a sign saying welcome to Illinois.



3153

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, growing up mostly in with my mother in Harwood Heights but also spending significant chunks of my childhood with my father in Avondale. In high school, we moved out to Schaumburg and I went to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to get my Bachelor's Degree in Global Studies. Illinois will always be my home, and I visit several times a year to see family and catch up with childhood friends.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A 12pt star represents the 12 founding tribes of the Illinois Confederation; white for purity of the land. The green field represents the state's prairies and the golden bands represent the state's agriculture, specifically corn. Each central star represents Illinois' historic past; New France, Province of Quebec, Northwest Territory, Indiana Territory, Illinois Territory. Finally, the top right star is IL statehood; white for unity set on blue for the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan.

3154

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois, the home state of my father, for over 15 years. In that time, I have been a resident of Peoria, Sangamon and DuPage County. I graduated from an Illinois high school, obtained two postsecondary degrees from Illinois-based institutions, and met my wife at the Illinois State Fair in Du Quoin. Illinois is also where my wife and I have established our first home and are growing our family.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois as the crossroads of America. The top and bottom planes represent the unique identities of Chicago and Downstate Illinois with contrasting colors in each to symbolize codependence. Blue represents the Union and the commercial influence of Lake Michigan and riverways. Green represents the agricultural industry. The 13-pointed star represents the amendment that ended slavery under Pres. Lincoln. Red, orange and yellow represent the Great Chicago Fire and a statewide resilience to tragedy.

3155

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Rockford, Illinois, it is the only home that I've known for 20 years. I enjoy car rides and going wherever the road takes me which often means I see the beauty of living in Illinois. I've visited other cities outside of Rockford, and one of my most frequent places to visit is Chicago. While I love the city vibes, I can also appreciate the miles of farmland that thrives in the sunlight and glows under the stars come nighttime. To me, Illinois is breathtaking.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are 21 leaves to symbolize Illinois being the 21st state. 1818 is the year IL became a state and 1868 is the year the Great Seal of IL was redesigned. The state bird which is the northern cardinal; symbolizes love, loyalty, and is said to bring strength to those in need. The black top hat means to honor the late 16th president Abraham Lincoln who helped make Illinois the state it is today. The pumpkin is a nod to Morton, IL being the Pumpkin Capitol of the world.

3156

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago, where the city's energy and diversity shaped me. But it was the trips to Southern Illinois to visit family that truly opened my eyes to the beauty and calm of the state's countryside. Later, while studying at Illinois State University (GO Redbirds!), I met people from all over Illinois and grew to deeply appreciate the pride and resilience that defines this state. Illinois is where I found family, community, and a love for both urban and rural life.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag celebrates Illinois' agricultural heritage, urban innovation, & natural resources. Green, gold, & orange stripes represent Illinois' farmland & top three crops: soybeans, corn & pumpkins. Blue stripes symbolize the five major rivers & Chicago skyline, birthplace of the first skyscraper. Blue triangles to the left & right represent the Mississippi River & Lake Michigan respectively. The orange star/sun is a nod to Chicago's flag, while also reinforcing the state's agricultural strength.

3157

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Elgin, IL by two parents from Guanajuato, Mexico, who immigrated to Elgin, Illinois in the 1970s. I currently live in Chicago, IL and work as an Art Teacher at a high school in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose to represent Illinois's state bird and state flower, the cardinal and violet. The muted yellow represents the long yellow prairie grass that has covered Illinois for centuries. The small white banner below the cardinal and violets pay homage to the old white Illinois flag before my flag design.



3158

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background of the flag represents the many rivers of the state and Lake Michigan. The orange band symbolizes the agriculture of the state. As "the prairie state," Illinois is known for agriculture. It's a large producer of corn, soy, and pumpkins. Orange and blue are also colors of the University of Illinois. There are 3 six-pointed stars on either side of the orange band. Added up, this is 18, a tribute to the state's founding in 1818.



3159

Relationship to Illinois

I currently live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is read from the flag with a neat calligraphy in front of a bald eagle with wings spread in glory to that of Illinois, and the eagle uses the US national colors. The tail bears 21 as Illinois was the 21st state of the US. A ring mimicking a stamp like in a declaration bears the state motto and Land of Lincoln along with 2 significant years for Illinois. 1818 was when Illinois was formed and 1970 was when it adopted a constitution for itself. The flag is neat and has the colors of US.



3160

Relationship to Illinois

I have grown up here my whole life in a small town called Pearl City with barely 500 people.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My meaning behind my flag is evolution. This is represented by the four Municipal devices of Chicago the largest city in Illinois and one yellow star that shows another piece of history of evolution. Another piece of evolution is the bald eagle. This shows because the fear less eagle is traveling from one flag to the next and it persists to courageously move forward. These designs are all placed on a blue piece of paper to show confidence and wisdom in our actions.



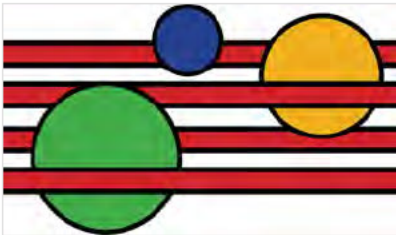
3161

Relationship to Illinois

I live in St. Louis, about a mile from the Illinois border, so Illinois is in my metro region.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents community: we are tied together yet each unique. Green stands for the land. Blue stands for the sky and waterways. Gold stands for prosperity. The circles seem to rise from the stripes, representing both connection and individuality. The spirit of the flag is joyful and hopeful and a bit whimsical.



3162

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL and have lived here most of my life. I currently live in Chicago where I'm a Neurologist at Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, but I've previously lived in other areas and have family scattered across the state (e.g. Peoria, Oak Brook, Decatur, Urbana). My parents immigrated to the US and put down roots in IL due to economic opportunities, and growing up here, I've come to appreciate our state's rich history, culture and landscape!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a reimagined 'sun over prairie' scene from the current flag. The sun is formed by 8 arrowheads: 8 for year 1818 & arrowheads reference Illinois/Illiniwek tribes. The 16 outer points of the arrowheads reference Lincoln (16th president). Orange represents agriculture and prairie. White line is a road/track (representing transportation/railroad history), and white signifies optimism. Blue line is the Illinois River. When hung vertically, the lines look like "LL" for "Land of Lincoln."

3163

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong Illinois resident, from a family of Illinois residents

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue and white waves represent the great rivers of our state. The deep blue and red come from the sesquicentennial flag and the 6 pointed star represents industry. The green field with a golden rising sun represents Illinois' agriculture, the 21 visible rays representing Illinois as the 21st state.



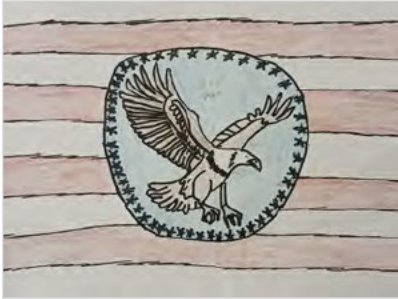
3164

Relationship to Illinois

I've been living in Illinois for 13 years and have other extended family out here. My dad owns a trucking company and my mom sometimes helps. My brother is in the Air Force, my cousin was in the Army, my aunt was an Army commander and another one of my cousins was in the Air Force. I have 3 brothers, 1 sister and loving parents. I got baptized as a Christian in Harvey, Illinois. I do cheer, basketball, track and will try out for volleyball. I am an 8th grade student at Spring Wood Middle School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my flag I did red and white for the background and made a circle that has a bald Eagle inside to represent our country. In the inside around the circle I put 50 stars for the 50 states we have and I wanted to keep the original colors so in the middle with the Eagle I put blue.



3165

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since 2005, except for from 2016 to 2020. I live in Peoria IL with my wife (from Illinois) and 2 daughters. My daughter is the one who designed the flag, she was born here and attends 5th grade.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is an eagle over a diagonal blue stripe with 50 stars on it. There are 2 smaller red stripes around the blue stripe. It says Illinois at the bottom of the flag. The red and blue stripes represents America with the white stars representing the 50 states. The eagle and the word Illinois at the bottom represents the great state of Illinois. The eagle is chosen as it is the most memorable and visual part of the original IL flag.



3166

Relationship to Illinois



My relationship with Illinois has been mixed experiences, memories, and emotions. From the bustling streets of Chicago to the serene landscapes of the countryside, I've found a deep connection to this state. The vibrant culture, rich history, and diverse communities have shaped my perspective in many ways.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I decided to put blue in the top right corner because Illinois has lots of bodies of water. I decided to put green in the bottom left corner because Illinois has many forests.

3167

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in IL and have lived here most of my life. I currently live in Chicago where I'm a Neurologist at Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, but I've previously lived in other areas and have family scattered across the state (e.g. Peoria, Oak Brook, Decatur, Urbana). My parents immigrated to the US and put down roots in IL due to economic opportunities, and growing up here, I've come to appreciate our state's rich history, culture and landscape!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On the left in blue are axe heads, which allude to Lincoln's nickname of "Railsplitter" and represent the strength and grit of the people of IL. There are 3 axe heads, which correlate with southern, central, and northern regions of IL. The white shape is half a wildflower, which references prairies. The white line is a road/track (referencing transportation/railroad history), and white signifies optimism. Orange represents agriculture, and the blue line is the Illinois River.

3168

Relationship to Illinois



I am a 7th grade student at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is representative of the USA. The American eagle also represents the USA. "Land of Lincoln" represents the former US President from Illinois, Abraham Lincoln.



3169

Relationship to Illinois

I live there for 3 years and worked there too

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois and Linkin



3170

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 7th grade student at Spring Wood Middle School in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On my flag I drew two things. Wheat and corn cobs. I drew those crops because Illinois grows those especially.



3171

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since 2005, except for from 2016 to 2020. I live in Peoria IL with my wife (from Illinois) and 2 daughters. My daughter is the one who designed the flag, she was born here and attends 5th grade.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is an eagle over diagonal red and blue stripes with 50 stars. It says Illinois and a cardinal sits on the stripes. The red and blue stripes represents America with the white stars representing the 50 states. The eagle and the word Illinois at the bottom represents the great state of Illinois. The eagle is chosen as it is the most memorable and visual part of the original IL flag and the cardinal represents the individuality of Illinois as a state among the 50.

3172

Relationship to Illinois

I currently live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The shape is that of Illinois and it is divided in half. The text reads Illinois and Land of Lincoln and the daylight half of the design has blue water to indicate the state's water body heritage and the top is navy pier, an important place in Chicago. The night half has the famous Chicago skyline and the right moon in glory, representing the state's glory. The stars show Illinois' diversity and all put together in the Illinois outline shows the state's unity. The theme is simple and neat.



3173

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Northern Cardinal bird is the symbol of resilience. The brilliant vibrant red feathers symbolizes passion, energy, and courage. The cardinal may be viewed as the spiritual messenger. Some believe seeing the cardinal is the sign of good luck or loyalty. The cardinal brings hope and new beginnings. The Monarch Butterfly is the symbol of change, transformation, and hope. The Monarch Butterfly may be viewed as spiritual messenger.



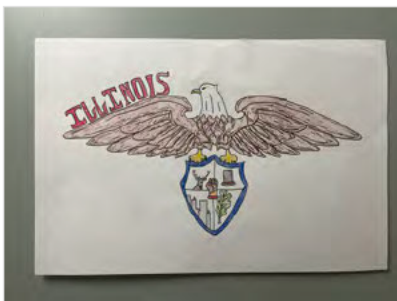
3174

Relationship to Illinois

I have grown up in Pearl City Illinois my whole life in a town of about 500 people.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to show strength and unity. The bald eagle represents resilience through tough times as being shown in his wound. In the shield it shows unity through out our state with the features of the white tail deer and white oak tree leave usually found in a more rural area and suburbs and the skyscrapers commonly found in large cities. Another way it shows unity is Abraham Lincoln's hat that helped shape Illinois how it is today.



3175



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the colors red, white, and blue to represent the USA flag and the freedom that we have in the United States. I included the year 1818 to show when we were declared a state.

3176



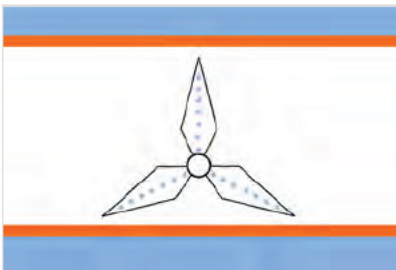
Relationship to Illinois

Illinois born and raised. I love this state!!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and green fields represents the prairie states landscapes with blues skies and lakes and green fields. The golden sun represents the state as a beacon of progress and its 21 rays represent the 21st state. The blue and white wave pattern represents the rivers such as the Mississippi, Illinois, and Ohio which define our great state.

3177



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and grew up in the Chicago suburbs, and attended college in Illinois as well. Having grown up there, my family and friends are all from or continue to live in Illinois as well.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The primary symbol within this flag is the form of a modern 3-blade windmill. I thought this was an excellent metaphor for the contrasting locales of Illinois; the eponymous Windy City, as well as the plains that are peppered with literal windmills. Since Illinois is the 21st state, each blade contains 7 stars. The colors I mainly drew inspiration from the Chicago Bears and the University of Illinois colors. This flag was designed by me and illustrated by my partner Madeline Schuster.

3178



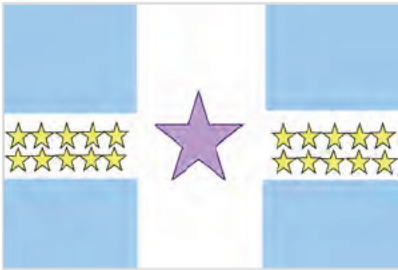
Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Illinois my whole life. One of my aunts is a business owner and lives in Illinois. I am an 8th grade student at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew a bald eagle to represent the National bird in North America. It represents that Illinois has freedom and courage in its state.

3179



Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is rooted in family. My ancestors have lived in Illinois for over a hundred years. My family has a long relationship to Illinois having lived in both its largest city and on farmland. Living in Illinois my whole life, I've grown up visiting many areas of Illinois and seeing all it has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four blue corners represent Lake Michigan, Wabash, Mississippi, & Ohio rivers. The twenty gold horizontal stars represent agriculture looking like rows of corn & with the stars being parallel it represents the railroads. The large purple star represents IL being the 21st state & the state flower, the violet. The background is white to create a vertical white stripe that represents cities and skyscrapers.

3180

Relationship to Illinois

I was born at Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago in 1980 and lived in Rogers Park when I was little. Grew up in Evanston and attended Evanston Township High School. Now I teach Illinois workers about their rights on the job as an instructor with the University of Illinois Labor Education Program. My son was born at UIC Hospital and now is a student at Evanston Township High School. He represents the second generation of Dicksons and Quezadas who call Illinois home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The monarch butterfly is a symbol of strength, resilience, transformation and evolution. Monarch butterflies also celebrate the vitality and freedom of migration and immigration. The golden star is a guiding and welcoming beacon as well as a nod to the six-pointed Chicago star. The three areas in blue represent the water boundaries of our state - the Mississippi River, the Ohio River, and Lake Michigan.

3181

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I picked Chicago because it's a big city here and a lot of people know it. When the sun is going down, there are a lot of colors in the sky. The fireworks are for the United States. The words represent that we live here.



3182

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is inspired by the flags of nearby Michigan, and especially, Indiana's flag, as well as numerous other flags, including Montana and Maine for example. It is not a copycat of these, but it is to show Illinois's loyalty to the Union.





3183

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I have some family members in the United states, I am a student attending Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The big cardinal on my flag represents Illinois' state bird, and the purple flower represents the Illinois state flower. I also put the bird standing on an American flag.



3184

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and grew up in Wood Dale. I have spent my whole life exploring Illinois from Chicago to Shawnee National Forest. It is an honor to be a part of this.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design highlights Illinois' central role in America's history as a transportation hub & cultural center. The gold center symbolizes prairies and farmland. The blue sections on the left & right represent major water sources bordering Illinois: the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The wavy line signifies the transportation routes that connect our state through both water (blue) and rail (white), significant in shaping Illinois. The single 8-pointed star represents Illinois' founding in 1818.



3185

Relationship to Illinois

a resident of Illinois my whole life I appreciate the entirety of the prairie state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue represents is taken directly from the sesquicentennial flag and represents the many rivers and lakes throughout the Land of Lincoln. the gold and white, the colors of the prairies of our state, represent the unique and diverse landscape of Illinois. The two 8 pointed stars form a compass rose and the North Star, representing the navigation of the first French explorers and of the first native Americans to reach the state. With the five point star this totals 21 points for the 21st state.



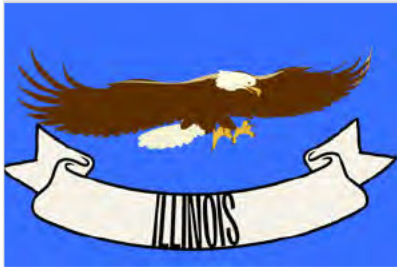
3186

Relationship to Illinois

Resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's a symbol of respect to the state. And shows the loyalty of Illinois and how hard it works for the state. And shows freedom.



3187

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois has been a mix of experiences, memories, and emotions. From the bustling streets of Chicago to the serene landscapes of the countryside, I've found a deep connection to this state. The vibrant culture, rich history, and diverse communities have shaped my perspective in many ways.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I took inspiration from the old flag to modernize it.



3188

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and grew up in Illinois, and went to college there as well. Even though I live in Wisconsin, I still frequently visit Illinois, where many of my family members and friends still reside.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For this design, my aim was to represent the urban and rural contrast of Illinois in a very simple and modern style. The left column is symbolic of a silver skyscraper, like the buildings that make up the Chicago skyline, with the blue above representative of both that sky and the neighboring Lake Michigan. On the right column, green represents the rural fields while the golden section is representative of the grains and corn that spring from those plains throughout the state.

3189



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and currently still live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the center is a Northern Cardinal to represent Illinois' state bird. Around the cardinal are two stems of wheat to represent Illinois' nickname, "Prairie State." Each stem contains 21 grains, representing Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union.

3190



Relationship to Illinois

My parents are immigrants from South Africa, and I was born in St. Louis, Missouri. Shortly afterward, my family moved to Bloomington, Illinois, where I have lived my entire life. I deeply appreciate the rich and diverse culture of this state and have a passion for vexillology. This passion inspired me to design a flag that could serve as a symbol of hope and pride for my fellow Illinoisans.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The field is old glory red, symbolizing Illinois's allegiance to the United States while maintaining a distinct identity, reflecting the state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union." A cardinal, the state bird, faces a seven-pointed star in the canton, symbolizing the hope that Illinois's ideals become reality. The star represents seven core values*hope, resilience, community, equality, progress, nature, and tradition*and the unity of Illinois's diverse regions.

3191

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to the Chicago area for college in 2019 after growing up in California. I instantly fell in love not just with Chicago, but with the state as a whole, and have traveled around the state numerous times in my five years here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The seal carries over from the existing Flag to respect the Illinoisians that have fought and died under the old flag since World War I. Two diagonal stripes run in parallel to represent the railroads that criss-cross the state. One strip is Union Blue of the American Flag, an homage to Illinois as a part of the USA and the various water features, like the Mississippi and Lake Michigan. The second stripe is golden yellow, representing the state's agricultural history and bright future.



3192

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here my whole life and I am a student at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois. My great uncle served in the Vietnam War.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design has a cardinal on it and it is sitting on a branch. In the branch are many things related to Illinois as well as many things you can do in Illinois



3193

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and currently still live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the center is a Northern Cardinal to represent Illinois' state bird. Around the cardinal are two stems of wheat to represent Illinois' nickname, "Prairie State." Each stem contains 21 grains, representing Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union.



3194

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, lived here almost my entire life, and I love every part of it. The pleasant blue of Lake Michigan and the vibrant green of the August tallgrass; the immense skyscrapers of the Windy City and the wind rolling off the prairie; the scorching summer and the freezing winter; the quiet cornfields and the lively downtowns. I have lived elsewhere in the US, and traveled abroad, but nothing really compares. To put it simply, Illinois is, and always will be, my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed this flag to honor our natural heritage. The icon in the middle is the seedhead of the state grass, the big bluestem. Elements of the 1918 centennial flag are used to emphasize this connection to the prairie; the encircling blue invokes the essential waterways of the state, while the white star which represents Illinois also takes the place of the plant's stem. This flag is meant to remember what we were and to promise, with proper care, what we may continue to be: The Prairie State.

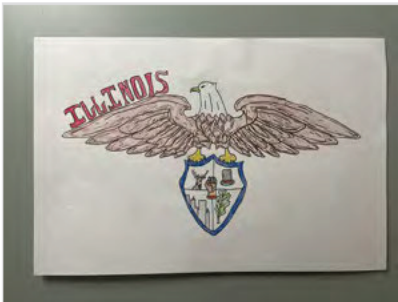
3195

Relationship to Illinois

I have grown up in Pearl City Illinois my whole life in a town of about 500 people.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to show strength and unity. The bald eagle represents resilience through tough times as being shown in his wound. In the shield it shows unity through out our state with the features of the white tail deer and white oak tree leave usually found in a more rural area and suburbs and the skyscrapers commonly found in large cities. Another way it shows unity is Abraham Lincoln's hat that helped shape Illinois how it is today.





3196

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have included many images related to the beautiful landscape of Illinois, as well as the symbol of our National bird to show that we will always be tied to the bigger picture, which is a state within the United States of America.



3197

Relationship to Illinois

23 years ago I moved from New Mexico to attend Lake Forest College for my BS in Studio Art/Economics. Other than one year at library school, I have lived in Illinois ever since. I was drawn to the state by its green landscape and Lake Michigan*such abundance was not seen in the desertscape of my youth. I lived, worked, and played for 14 years in Chicago, and spent the last 4 in Lake County, learning about native plants, prairie restoration, and that remembering our past strengthens our future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is split into two main sections to remind us of Illinois' landscape prior to European settlement* the tan 2/3s represents prairie and the remaining teal 1/3 represents woodland. 3 triangles represent IL' state plant, Big Bluestem. 3 stems mimic its 3-footed seed head and represent the 3 bordering rivers of IL: Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash. A bison hoof print in the upper left honors their importance to prairie soil fertility and references the shape of Lake Michigan and Huron.



3198

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and currently live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Northern cardinal in the center represents Illinois' state bird. On each side of the cardinal is a wheat stem, representing Illinois nickname, the "Prairie State." Each stem contains 21 grains which represent Illinois being the 21st state to join the Union.

3199



Relationship to Illinois

As stated on a previous submission, I'm born and raised here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Mostly along the same meanings as my first submission. Blue and white being a nice pairing of colors, with the blue representing the Mississippi river. The Fleur-de-lis represents France being the namesake for the State and the first to settle here. The stars represent both Illinois being a member of the Union and the 4 Presidents who have come from the state: Lincoln, Grant, Reagan and Obama.

3200



Relationship to Illinois

23 years ago I moved from New Mexico to attend Lake Forest College for my BS in Studio Art/Economics. Other than one year at library school, I have lived in Illinois ever since. I was drawn to the state by its green landscape and Lake Michigan*such abundance was not seen in the desertscape of my youth. I lived, worked, and played for 14 years in Chicago, and spent the last 4 in Lake County, learning about native plants, prairie restoration, and that remembering our past strengthens our future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is split into two main sections to remind us of Illinois' landscape prior to European settlement* the tan 2/3s represents prairie and the remaining teal 1/3 represents woodland. 3 triangles represent IL' state plant, Big Bluestem. 3 stems mimic its 3-footed seed head and represent the 3 bordering rivers of IL: Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash. A bison hoof print in the upper left honors their importance to prairie soil fertility and references the shape of Lake Michigan and Huron.

3201

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to the Chicago area in 2019 when I started college. Since then, I have fallen in love not just with Chicago, but with Illinois as a whole. I have traveled across the state several times in my five years of living here, and I don't plan on moving any time soon!



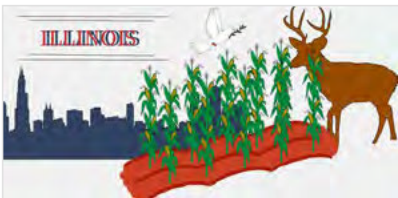
Explain the meaning behind your flag

Three stripes represent the state's three regions. The northern stripe is light blue, an homage to the flag of Chicago, and the waters all across the state. The central stripe is white for peace, an homage to the contributions and sacrifices many Illinoisians made to their state during the Civil War in order to bring about peace. The southern stripe is green for the prairies and agricultural heritage. The sun is for Illinois's bright future and has 21 points because Illinois is the 21st state.

3202

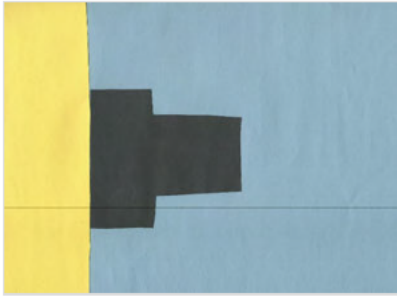
Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is unique because I became a U.S. citizen when I touched down from being adopted through international adoption. Ever since then, Illinois has provided me with educational opportunities, beneficial to my future. I look forward to seeing what Illinois has to offer to me as I grow older and more experienced as a young adult.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I added the Chicago skyline as a remembrance of the great industrial achievements of Chicago. The corn is Illinois's state grain also called the "Prairie State". The white-tailed deer is added because it's the Illinois state animal. The white dove is a symbol of freedom for the African American population in the U.S., since Illinois is also known as the "Land of Lincoln". Last but not least, the word "Illinois" was added to the flag twice to incorporate a touch of "modern art".



3203

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow strip in this flag represents corn. The black shape represents Abraham Lincoln (because of the top hat). The blue represents freedom.



3204

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Northern Cardinal is the symbol of resilience. The Monarch Butterfly is the symbol of change, transformation, and hope. The purple violet flower symbolizes loyalty and remembrance; spiritual meaning of grabbing hold of the imagination, dreams, and future. The sun is the symbol of hope, renewal, and divinity.

3205

Relationship to Illinois

23 years ago I moved from New Mexico to attend Lake Forest College for my BS in Studio Art/Economics. Other than one year at library school, I have lived in Illinois ever since. I was drawn to the state by its green landscape and Lake Michigan*such abundance was not seen in the desertscape of my youth. I lived, worked, and played for 14 years in Chicago, and spent the last 4 in Lake County, learning about native plants, prairie restoration, and that remembering our past strengthens our future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is split into two main sections to remind us of Illinois' landscape prior to European settlement* the tan 2/3s represents prairie and the remaining teal 1/3 represents woodland. 3 triangles represent IL' state plant, Big Bluestem. 3 stems mimic its 3-footed seed head and represent the 3 bordering rivers of IL: Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash. A bison hoof print in the upper left honors their importance to prairie soil fertility and references the shape of Lake Michigan and Huron.



3206

Relationship to Illinois

My son, [REDACTED] (age 12), who designed this flag, is a lifelong--and proud--resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

From [REDACTED] "My flag has meanings on multiple levels. To begin, the green on the lower half of the plane represents Illinois' many prairies. The blue is the Mississippi River, which makes up a large sum of Illinois' border. The fading striped yellow lines represent Illinois' corn. The sun with expanding rays represents Illinois' influence on the rest of the world through figures such as Abraham Lincoln, Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and Ronald Reagan. I hope that this flag finds you well."



3207

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to the Chicago area in 2019 when I started college. Since then, I have fallen in love not just with Chicago, but with Illinois as a whole. I have traveled across the state several times in my five years of living here, and I don't plan on moving any time soon!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and white are an homage to the U.S. flag and Illinois's contributions in the civil war. The yellow sun has 21 points to represent Illinois as the 21st state in the Union and the state's prairies and natural resources. The diamond inside is orange as a reference to Illinois's unofficial "state colors," blue and orange, and represents the Illinois Confederation and the state's native past.



3208

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and have lived here for my whole life, except for a brief foray to Wisconsin for college. While most of my time is spent in Chicago, I love exploring all that Illinois has to offer, whether that means hiking through the state's beautiful parks, visiting all the richly historical towns, and enjoying all that Chicago and other cities have to offer. Our state may be underrated in a lot of ways, but I hope this flag highlights some of the beauty that Illinois contains.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is centered around the natural beauty of Illinois. It features our state insect, the monarch butterfly, drinking nectar from milkweed and overlaid over our state fungi, the giant puffball. There is also a blue sky, green prairie, and gold strips to symbolize our amber waves of grain. The monarch is a great symbol for our state since its north/south migratory pattern echoes the tall shape of Illinois. No matter where in Illinois you live, butterflies bring Illinois' natural beauty to you.



3209

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois state scholar from Madison county and graduate of the University of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The color orange is uncommonly used on flags, and the orange-and-blue color scheme is recognizable in Illinois institutions. This arrangement of five bands and an outlined charge upholds sound vexillological principles with a simple facade that obscures deceptive complexity, and it can be imbued with a range of symbolism or serve as a base for alternative defacements.



3210

Relationship to Illinois

I'm [REDACTED], a Senior at Barrington High School. I was born in Chicago and have lived in Illinois for my entire life. My family is descendant from immigrants who came to the Chicago area to find a better life. I enjoy the culture and traditions of our state, and hope to one day become involved in public policy here. I want to protect the natural and historical beauty of this state that can't be found anywhere else.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The scene depicted from this flag is partially derived from the sunrise on the Illinois seal. The color of the sun is the same of that as that in the seal. The 4 diagonal blue stripes represent the rivers that define our state, which are the rivers that line our border (Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash) and the Illinois river. The ones at the bottom direct focus forwards to the sun. The intent was that it's pointing the same way as the "backwards" American flags on the uniforms of service members.

3211

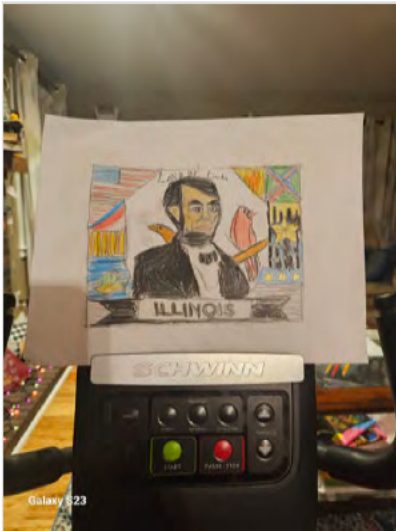
Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Naperville, IL. Then went to college at Illinois Wesleyan University. After graduation, I moved to Chicago and have been living in the city for almost 8 years. Illinois has been my home for a total of 30 years!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I created a flag that represents the state of IL, as well as its state capital. The dark blue color and 20 stars shaped in a circle are design features from Springfield flag. The dark blue stripes also represent the Mississippi River/Lake Michigan. The shield representing the 13 colonies & light blue color are design elements from the current state flag. In the end, I was able to combine all of these icons & colors to create something unique and ownable to Illinois.



3212

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life except for 2014-2016.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A bunch of state symbols and icons mixed into one flag.

3213

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Naperville, IL. Then went to college at Illinois Wesleyan University. After graduation, I moved to Chicago and have been living in the city for almost 8 years. Illinois has been my home for a total of 30 years!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to create something that was a departure from the current IL flag but still represented our state in a unique way. The blue stripes represent the Mississippi River & Lake Michigan. The stripes also represent the letters I & L to abbreviate of Illinois. The white background is a nod to the current flag/prairie land IL occupies. The 20 point star with a star in the center represents IL becoming the 21st state to join the union. The star shape also represents the sunrise over IL.



3214

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Naperville, IL. Then went to college at Illinois Wesleyan University. After graduation, I moved to Chicago and have been living in the city for almost 8 years. Illinois has been my home for a total of 30 years!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I created a design that modernized elements from the current IL state flag in a simplistic, memorable way. The eagle is the focal point of the flag which symbolizes our nation. The shield shape is a nod to the 13 colonies. 1818 is included to represent the year IL became a state. The 20 point star with a star in the center represents IL becoming the 21st state to join the union. Blue represents the Mississippi River/Lake Michigan/Sky. White is a nod to the current flag/prairie land IL occupies.

3215

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have been living here ever since then. I like my neighborhood and i am very happy here. I like my school and my friends. I like the malls, tall buildings and parks here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is a star shape because it is one of the fifty star shaped states. The bird in the middle is the Red Cardinal, the national bird of Illinois. I put some violets around it because they are the national flower of Illinois. In the background there is a silhouette of a city because Illinois is known for Chicago. There is also a river in the background to symbolize the waterways and lakes surrounding us. Finally, I added "Land of Lincoln "because it is our state slogan.

3216

Relationship to Illinois

As a fifth-generation Illinoisan, my journey began in Chicago 44 years ago today. I've toured the state for sports, business, and education, appreciating the consensus that our state is the heartland of America, unique and indispensable to the rest of the country and the world. In 2010 and 2012, I completed the Chicago Marathon. Additionally, my graphic design studio in Chicago focuses on inspiring humanity through creative ingenuity that is both intellectually sound and viscerally responsible.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag concept reflects our rich history, architecture, agriculture, transportation, & prairies. Left white: open prairies. Red & white stripes: farms, roadways, buildings & the 13 initial states to enter the union. Right navy blue: Lake Michigan & unity. Single navy & baby blue strip: ingenuity that reversed the Illinois River to ensure clean water & future growth. Center seal: represents meaning, entry year, 20 stars enclosing 1 center star (21st state), the 3rd largest city, & the Midwest.

3217

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is where my mom's parents went after they escaped Romania's dictatorship 50 years ago. They found opportunities in Illinois and started a large family that, to this day, is connected and happy. Illinois is where my dad came to when he immigrated from Romania. It's where he met my mother and where they started a family that is proud of the state they live in.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripes on the flag represent the two bodies of water that border Illinois: Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river. The white stripe represents Illinois' open land that has provided opportunities to people like my parents. The white star represents the hope that people can find success in Illinois

3218

Relationship to Illinois



Illinois is where my mom's parents went after they escaped Romania's dictatorship 50 years ago. They found opportunities in Illinois and started a large family that, to this day, is connected and happy. Illinois is where my dad came to when he immigrated from Romania. It's where he met my mother and where they started a family that is proud of the state they live in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripes on the flag represent the two bodies of water that border Illinois: Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river. The white stripe represents Illinois' open land that has provided opportunities to people like my parents. The white star represents the hope that people can find success in Illinois

3219

Relationship to Illinois



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Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripes on the flag represent the two bodies of water that border Illinois: Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The white stripe represents Illinois' open land that has provided opportunities to people like my parents. The red star represents the hope that people can find success in Illinois

3220

Relationship to Illinois

As a fifth-generation Illinoisan, my journey began in Chicago 44 years ago today. I've toured the state for sports, business, and education, appreciating the consensus that our state is the heartland of America, unique and indispensable to the rest of the country and the world. In 2010 and 2012, I completed the Chicago Marathon. Additionally, my graphic design studio in Chicago focuses on inspiring humanity through creative ingenuity that is both intellectually sound and viscerally responsible.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag concept reflects our rich history, architecture, agriculture, transportation, & prairies. Left white: open prairies. Red & white stripes: farms, roadways, buildings & the 13 initial states to enter the union. Right navy blue: Lake Michigan & unity. Single navy & baby blue strip: ingenuity that reversed the Illinois River to ensure clean water & future growth. Center seal: represents meaning, entry year, 20 stars enclosing 1 center star (21st state), the 3rd largest city & the Midwest.

3221

Relationship to Illinois

This is submitted on behalf of [REDACTED]. I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life. I am in the band and like to do art things. I go to Springfield High School. I thought this was an interesting opportunity and wanted to help make a flag for my state. Thank you for looking at my entry!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange should be code E84A27, and it represents one of the colors Illinois is known for. Especially because of the Fighting Illini football team. The light blue should be code 42B6E7 and it stands for the I in Illinois. It is also the same color as the Chicago flag. The white code should be code FFFFFFFF and the red code should be E4002A. The red star represents the Chicago city, because Illinois is most known for Chicago. These colors help break up the dark blue most state flags have.

3222

Relationship to Illinois

My family moved to Illinois from New Jersey about 6 years ago. Ever since I have been here, I could not describe a better place that I would like to live in. I am incredibly lucky to be able to be from Illinois because of everything it has to offer from its amazing cities like Chicago to its natural beauties like Lake Michigan. To me, Illinois is my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The monarch butterfly is the Illinois state insect, it flies to show how Illinois is always moving forward and to show freedom. Additionally, butterflies are found in prairies and we are known as "The Prairie State". The line in the middle that separates the blue (the sky and Lake Michigan) and the green (prairies) shows the flatness of Illinois. Illinois was named after the Illiniwek tribe which was composed of 12 smaller tribes hence the 12 stars that surround the butterfly.

3223

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is where my mom's parents went after they escaped Romania's dictatorship 50 years ago. They found opportunities in Illinois and started a large family that, to this day, is connected and happy. Illinois is where my dad came to when he immigrated from Romania. It's where he met my mother and where they started a family that is proud of the state they live in.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe represents Lake Michigan and the source of life for most of Illinois' population. The white stripe represents Illinois' open land that has provided opportunities to many Illinoisans and people like my parents. The red star represents the hope that people can find success in Illinois

3224

Relationship to Illinois

I spent my childhood in Beardstown as the daughter of a third-generation riverboat captain. Living on the Illinois River, I grew up meeting all kinds of people from all over our state. I've lived in Rochester ever since, and these days I still love meeting new characters across Illinois. What makes our state great is the wide range of cultures across our rural and urban communities. My goal is for my designs to represent all of these people, as well as our rich history and natural landscape.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three seven-pointed stars represent the three state capitals in our state's history. The addition of their points honors our state being the 21st to join the USA. The blue stripe represents our major waterways and their impact on our cultural and industrial history. The gold stripe represents our farms and a prairie horizon beneath a starry sky. The white stripe represents light and our aspirations for the future. This three-stripe pattern honors the Illinois Centennial Flag of 1918.

3225

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, and have spent all my life living here. I love this State, from the big city to the small cities, from the grassy prairies to the rocky peaks overlooking the Mississippi. Illinois has been my home for the last 23 years of my life, and even when I roam far from home, I always feel a strong connection pulling me back to where I grew up. That's why it only felt natural to submit my design, amateur as it may be, to this competition.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is directly inspired by the flag of Springfield, Illinois, our capitol, as designed by poet Vachel Lindsay. The white of the background represents the purity and untamed grace of our natural environment, while the stars represent our history as the 21st state as well as our connection to the rest of the country. The offset circle of 20 blue stars stand for the 20 states which had been admitted to the Union before 1818, and the large red star in the center represents Illinois itself.

3226

Relationship to Illinois

My family moved to Illinois from New Jersey about 6 years ago. Ever since I have been here, I could not describe a better place that I would like to live in. I am incredibly lucky to be able to be from Illinois because of everything it has to offer from its amazing cities like Chicago to its natural beauties like Lake Michigan. To me, Illinois is my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The monarch butterfly is an Illinois state insect, it is flying to show how Illinois is always moving forward and to show the freedom of the butterfly. Additionally, butterflies are found in prairies and we are known as "The Prairie State". Illinois was named after the Illiniwek tribe which was composed of 12 smaller tribes hence the 12 stars that surround the butterfly. As for the colors, the navy blue represents Lake Michigan and the sky which the green continues to represent the prairies.

3227

Relationship to Illinois

My family has long ties to the state of Illinois, going back more than 4 generations in the city of Marion. My grandma's side of the family ran the town's Ramada inn. While I currently live in the St. Louis area, I go back across the river to visit family there. When I was a young kid I lived in Plainfield, IL. While my time there wasn't too long, the Chicago area certainly left its impression on me, and I hope to be able to live there again someday.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features 21 stars for being the 21st state, the arrangement of which pays homage to Wallace Rice's centennial flag. The blue represents the position of lake Michigan and the rivers that form the state's border. The orange represents Illinois' agricultural prominence, and the white bars represent Illinois being the nation's rail hub. The central star within represents Illinois connecting the nation. The star's gold color represents the prairies that lend the nickname "The Prairie State"

3228

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

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3229

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois after college and have lived here for seven years now. I initially lived in Peoria, and then moved to the Chicagoland area. I work as a mechanical engineer, and am proud to have been part of some of this state's historic engineering operations: Caterpillar, E.M.D., and now the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. My sister is a proud graduate of Millikin University in Decatur.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design salutes Illinois' transportation heritage. Two lines represent Illinois as the heart of the nation's railroad network. Blue is for waterways, and white stands for air. The shield represents Route 66 and other historic roads. The lines rise up and to the right, as the Illinois River crosses the state. 20 small stars stand together, symbolizing Lincoln's preservation of the Union. The large blue star, for Illinois as the 21st state, is modeled on a Union veteran's G.A.R. badge.

3230

Relationship to Illinois

My parents are immigrants from South Africa, and I was born in St. Louis, Missouri. Shortly afterward, my family moved to Bloomington, Illinois, where I have lived my entire life. I deeply appreciate the rich and diverse culture of this state and have a passion for vexillology. This passion inspired me to design a flag that could serve as a symbol of hope and pride for my fellow Illinoisans.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features a dark blue field, matching the current Illinois flag, with light blue on the cross symbolizing Chicago. When horizontal, the cross and stars resemble an airplane, reflecting Illinois's status as a major transportation hub and honoring Orville and Wilbur Wright's early flight experiments in the state. When vertical, the cross represents a windmill pointed toward the stars. The six stars embody the core values of Illinois: hope, resilience, community, equality, progress, nature,

3231

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois I don't understand this question?also, there is no space to write here so everything bellow is misspelled with no punctuation to save characters



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flags colors and shapes represent different things like the star looks like a violet and uses violet colors to represent the ilinois state flower the violet blue repersents the rivers the left is the Mississippi river and the right is lake mician the midle is the Illinois river and the blue is shaprd like an i first lether in ilinois dark gray represents the uban areas light gray towns green plains and yellow wheat the yellow and green make a secret only released if you chouse this flag.

3232



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in Northern Illinois for my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It depicts a corn stalk-a highly produced crop in Illinois against Illinois' blue skies and green prairies. The lighter blue between the grass and the sky is a stylized depiction of a river.

3233



Relationship to Illinois

As a high schooler currently enrolled in Elgin High School, I have lived my entire life in Illinois. Thanks to my mom telling me about this competition, I wanted to contribute something for consideration, and although it could be improved, I think it's simple and effective enough to be a unique symbol for our state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For the tricolor I added green to show off the farms and prairie's, blue to represent the rivers and lakes, and white to honor the history of the flag. For the center I added a blue 8 pointed star, surrounded by a blue ring that represents the state capitol and government, while the ring shows the unity of Illinois. This is surrounded by a 16 pointed star that also doubles as the sun featured on the original flag. This is flanked by 5 pointed stars on either side showing balance in the state.

3234

Relationship to Illinois

My family has long ties to the state of Illinois, going back more than 4 generations in the city of Marion. My grandma's side of the family ran the town's Ramada inn. While I currently live in the St. Louis area, I go back across the river to visit family there. When I was a young kid I lived in Plainfield, IL. While my time there wasn't too long, the Chicago area certainly left its impression on me, and I hope to be able to live there again someday.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features 21 stars for being the 21st state, the arrangement of which pays homage to Wallace Rice's centennial flag. The blue represents the position of lake Michigan and the rivers that form the state's border. The orange represents Illinois' agricultural prominence, and the white bars represent Illinois being the nation's rail hub. The central star within represents Illinois connecting the nation.

3235

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois, I've lived in and around Chicago my entire life. Having a passion for traveling, throughout the years I've made multiple trips down state to cities, smaller towns, and exploring the states beautiful landscapes and landmarks.

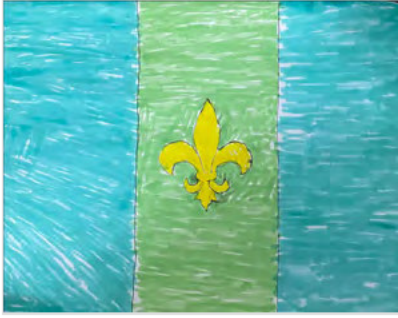
Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is my first of three submissions. The patterns and colors of this design is primarily inspired by Cahokia pottery and wanting to pay respect to the indigenous people of the land. The warm golden yellows are for the agriculture of the land and hope. The red for industry and strength. The blue representing nature, bodies of water around and within the borders of Illinois and justice.



3236

Relationship to Illinois



My family is from Bosnia and moved here during the yugoslav wars and they moved to chicago, Illinois because chicago is the second most populous serbian city in the world. I grew up in Chicago, Illinois and lived here my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first element is a tri color background with blue on both left and right side of the flag and green in the middle. The blue represents the rivers on our border like mississippi and ohio rivers. The green represents our prairie ecosystem. Fleur De Lis in the center of the flag, The Fleur De Lis, a symbol associated with France represents Illinois's french history being a part of New France.

3237

Relationship to Illinois



I've lived in southern Illinois for my entire life, though I've visited up north many times, and I've experienced everywhere from the bustling city of Chicago to corn-covered rural sprawl. There is so much beauty here, the nature, the people, the food. Illinois has a charm that you'll never stop noticing once you spot it. The place you call home is a connection that will never fade, and home is what Illinois is to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag takes a lot of inspiration from the original, featuring elements of the land as well as the state's motto. Though, I included the silhouette of Chicago beside the more natural landscape that the old flag featured. The bird is a cardinal, our state bird. Cardinals represent hope, and as a youth, I think hope is a truly important thing to have. It is mostly a more modern and inclusive spin on our original flag. Keeping the tradition, but making it true to the current Illinoisans as well.



3238

Relationship to Illinois

Hello! My name is Julia -I'm proud to have lived in Illinois my whole life (aside from attending college in Wisconsin). I grew up in Lake Forest, Illinois, and have lived in the city of Chicago for around 8 years now.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I created a modern version of our current flag -you'll still see some similar colors to the current flag being used here. I also added our state bird (the cardinal) because I feel it is more fitting than the eagle. I noted some areas in the Illinois outline because it's tough to write exactly where the easter eggs are, but our state bird, our state flower, our state vegetable, prairie grass and lakes/river references all make up the Illinois state outline.

3239

Relationship to Illinois

I spent my childhood in Beardstown as the daughter of a third-generation riverboat captain. Living on the Illinois River, I grew up meeting all kinds of people from all over our state. I've lived in Rochester ever since, and these days I still love meeting new characters across Illinois. What makes our state great is the wide range of cultures across our rural and urban communities. My goal is for my designs to represent all of these people, as well as our rich history and natural landscape.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The pyramid of 21 stars represents our strength and honors our state being the 21st to join the USA. The 13 alternating stripes honor our leadership in civil rights, being the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment. The color blue represents our major waterways and their impact on our state's cultural and industrial history. The gold stripes symbolize our rows of farmland and honors our leadership in agriculture. The star above the prairie honors Chicago and symbolizes our bright future.



3240

Relationship to Illinois

I am currently a resident of Chicago, IL. I moved here with my wife and daughter in 2021.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design focuses on the aspect of being the 21st state in the Union. It brings the stars together in the form of the silhouette of the state. Below that in bold letters are the name of the State harkening back to the thoughts of Chief Petty Officer Bruce McDaniel of Waverly, including the name of the State to make it more identifiable.



3241

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in and have lived in Illinois for my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A simple tri-color flag where the blue stripes represent the sky and the rivers of Illinois with the state bird in silhouette at the left of the flag. The bird is in flight and surrounded in a yellow circle representing the gold of corn, a highly produced crop and the strength of Illinois.



3242

Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raised in the city of Chicago. I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. My mother is from Chicago and my father grew up in Ottawa, IL. I have traveled the state extensively from Cairo to Rockford, Cahokia to Kankakee. I am a self proclaimed Chicago historian and have, as a singer songwriter, written many songs about our great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I call this flag "Knee High by July." I created this polygon shape to represent a corn stalk, which in this flag is growing ever taller, representing our growth as a state. There are 21 individual stalk pieces, in honor of Illinois being the 21st state admitted to the union. Instead of an ear of corn at the top of the stalks we find Chicago's famous 6 pointed star, showing the synergy of our unique urban/rural dynamic. The 2 blue bars represent the Mississippi and the Illinois River.



3243

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois, I've lived in and around Chicago my entire life. Having a passion for traveling, throughout the years I've made multiple trips down state to cities, smaller towns, and exploring the states beautiful landscapes and landmarks.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is my second of three submissions. A variation of my first design, primary difference being the blue is the western border of Illinois. The patterns and colors of this design is primarily inspired by Cahokia pottery and wanting to pay respect to the indigenous people of the land. The warm golden yellows are for the agriculture of the land and hope. The red for industry and strength. The blue representing nature, bodies of water around and within the borders of Illinois and justice.



3244

Relationship to Illinois

I am currently a resident of Chicago, IL. I moved here with my wife and daughter in 2021.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design focuses on the aspect of being the 21st state in the Union. It brings the stars together in the form of the silhouette of the state. Below that in bold letters are the name of the State harkening back to the thoughts of Chief Petty Officer Bruce McDaniel of Waverly, including the name of the State to make it more identifiable.



3245

Relationship to Illinois

Hello! My name is Julia -I'm proud to have lived in Illinois my whole life (aside from attending college in Wisconsin). I grew up in Lake Forest, Illinois, and have lived in the city of Chicago for around 8 years now.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a second iteration of the flag I just uploaded. The colors pop a bit more on this one, and I think it will contrast well with our skies here. Our state bird (the cardinal) is the main focal point because I feel it is more fitting than the eagle. I noted some areas in the Illinois outline because it's tough to write exactly where the easter eggs are, but our state bird, our state flower, our state vegetable, prairie grass and lakes/river references all make up the Illinois state outline.



3246

Relationship to Illinois

My family has long ties to the state of Illinois, going back more than 4 generations in the city of Marion. My grandma's side of the family ran the town's Ramada inn. While I currently live in the St. Louis area, I go back across the river to visit family there. When I was a young kid I lived in Plainfield, IL. While my time there wasn't too long, the Chicago area certainly left its impression on me, and I hope to be able to live there again someday.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue corners represent the position of lake Michigan and the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers that form the state's border. The orange stripe represents Illinois' agricultural prominence, and the white stripes represent Illinois being the nation's rail hub. The central star within represents Illinois connecting the nation. The star's gold color represents the prairies that lend the nickname "The Prairie State"



3247

Relationship to Illinois

I am currently a resident of Chicago, IL. I moved here with my wife and daughter in 2021.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design focuses on the aspect of being the 21st state in the Union. It brings the stars together in the form of the silhouette of the state. Below that in bold letters are the name of the State harkening back to the thoughts of Chief Petty Officer Bruce McDaniel of Waverly, including the name of the State to make it more identifiable.



3248

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois since I was five years old, growing up near Chicago and attending high school here. My family and I live in the suburbs of Palatine, and I spend a lot of time with them, but I also love exploring the city and learning about its history. Even though I'm still in high school, Illinois feels like a big part of who I am, and I can't imagine living anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The silhouette of Illinois is the focal point, signifying the state's identity. The triangles symbolizes various regions of Illinois converging at the center; reflecting the unification of different cultures. The dark brown is the rich agricultural history and fertile soil. The peach shade symbolizes sand that's found along Illinois' fresh water supplier, Lake Michigan. Navy blue signifies perseverance, representing Illinois' status as a whole within the broader U.S, contributing to the Union.



3249

Relationship to Illinois

I spent my childhood in Beardstown as the daughter of a third-generation riverboat captain. Living on the Illinois River, I grew up meeting all kinds of people from all over our state. I've lived in Rochester ever since, and these days I still love meeting new characters across Illinois. What makes our state great is the wide range of cultures across our rural and urban communities. My goal is for my designs to represent all of these people, as well as our rich history and natural landscape.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21 shapes honor our state being the 21st to join the USA. The intersecting design represents the connection of our rural and urban communities. The grid represents the farm plots and city blocks throughout the state. The white diamond represents the state capital and its central location. The white square represents Chicago and its northeast location. The color gold represents our history of agricultural leadership. The color white represents light and our aspirations for the future.

3250

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. My hometown is Girard in Macoupin co. I currently live and work in Urbana Illinois. I am very proud to be Illinoisan and I believe Illinois to be the jewel of the Midwest.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have lived in many different places in Illinois that are representative of many different kinds of people, ethnically, politically and otherwise. At the end however, we are all Illinoisans. The meaning of my flag is to represent a patriotic unity of all residents of Illinois. This is represented by the inclusion of a six and five pointed star. The union of these stars creates an eleven pointed star shown in the center. My flag is called the "Prairie Unity Flag"

3251

Relationship to Illinois

I am Illinois born and raised, and have seen firsthand the diversity of life Illinois holds, from Shawnee National Forest to Springfield the Lake Michigan to acres of cornfields that propel our economy. I live in the Chicago area and have experienced the history and nature of Illinois as well. My family are leaders and benefactors of The Wetlands Initiative, which helps rebuild lost wetlands in Illinois and the Midwest, and donate/volunteer to other local orgs like PAWS Chicago and the GCFD.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a tricolor design that has a royal blue, representing the water of Lake Michigan and the Illinois/Mississippi rivers that define Illinois' boundary and much of its culture and life, a verdant green, for the natural beauty in the wetlands, forests, and great plains the state holds, and a corn-like yellow, relating to the staple crop of the state and its agricultural backbone. At the center is a 21-pointed star, as Illinois is the 21st state and has, at its heart, peace and prosperity.



3252

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bar on the bottom is Lake Michigan, the tall building is our urban industry, the small building our family homes, the yellow vertical structure our agriculture, and the round yellow shape our hills and plains.



Relationship to Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag



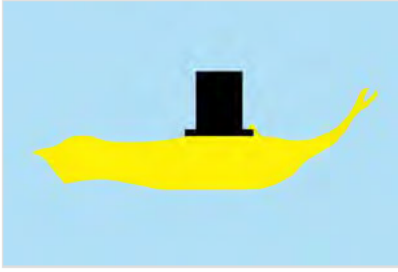
Relationship to Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features a large, bold, "barn quilt" representation of the Illinois Violet, our great state flower. The geometry of the 6 pointed star blends seamlessly into the center of the "quilt" and displays a blending of our rural traditions and our urban achievements. The violet sits on a maize yellow background to symbolize the delicate balance between nature and agriculture.

3255



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag depicts Chicago's oldest resident, its state fossil the Tully Monster, wearing the iconic hat of its most famous. This is obviously a joke submission, but I hope if the submissions go live it will convince some people to look up the Tully Monster, which quite possibly the coolest and most enigmatic state fossil there is.

3256



Relationship to Illinois

I have always lived in Illinois, whether I was in the mid-sized towns of downstate like Champaign, Decatur, and Normal, or in the urban core of Chicago. Chicago highlighted a contrast between the city flag which I found aesthetically interesting, and the state flag, which I felt could use improvement. This life experience informed my design for the state flag. However, as someone with little experience in art, assistance from my friends made my submission possible, especially on the bird sketch!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A double meaning is presented by my flag. First, the flag is meant to evoke the literal scene of a cardinal flying over a snowy landscape, as may happen in some of our Illinois winters. However, it also has symbolism associated with the colors of the Chicago flag in the background, while the cardinal is a state bird that I've always associated more with the rest of the state. I felt that symbolizing the unity and common ground between the Chicago area and the rest of the state is a worthy goal.

3257

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois, I've lived in and around Chicago my entire life. Having a passion for traveling, throughout the years I've made multiple trips down state to cities, smaller towns, and exploring the states beautiful landscapes and landmarks.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is my third of three submissions. Bolder colors than the other submissions, the warm golden yellows are for the agriculture of the land and hope. The orange for industry and strength. The blue representing nature, bodies of water around and within the borders of Illinois and justice. Specifically the top right represents Lake Michigan while the wavy bottom left represents the largest rivers. In the middle are 21 white stars for IL being the 21st state. The 6 pointed star for historical use.



3258

Relationship to Illinois

Third submission. Same answers as the first entry. I have lived in Illinois since 2007 except for my active duty time in the Navy and two years in the Seattle area. I always move back because this is my home. I currently live in Irving Park, Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Third submission. The five-pointed star represents Illinois as the crossroads of America and our place in the US. The three stripes represent Northern Illinois, Southern Illinois and Greater Chicago. The two blue stripes represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, the green stripe represents wide open prairie. The green stripe and the green star form an "I" (for Illinois) when the flag is hung vertically. The design is similar to my other entry, but colors can be changed as needed.



3259

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bar on the bottom is Lake Michigan, the tall building the City of Chicago, the medium our suburbs, and the white triangle our rural homes, the yellow vertical represents our agriculture.



3260

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, in the western suburbs of Chicago. I went to public schools and lived in Carol Stream until I was 21, when I moved out of state to New York City. I return a couple times a year. When I was in third grade I was the winner of a contest to design the mail cancellation stamp for the Carol Stream mail processing center for the day the 9/11 Heroes Stamp was launched.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The field is orange and symbolizes Illinois' fertile soil. The two wavy, navy lines near the hoist (the flag pole side) symbolize the two biggest rivers in Illinois, the Mississippi River and the Illinois river. On the top of the fly side is a navy quarter of a circle, symbolizing Lake Michigan. These three bodies of water have shaped the state in many ways. The flag's colors are also the colors of the University of Illinois and Chicago Bears. Overall, the flag is a stylized map of Illinois

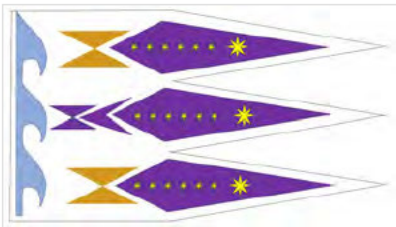
3261

Relationship to Illinois

I am a native for all 40 years of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 Regions Flag The 3 point shape of the flag is often used in European Naval flags signifying Illinois founding origins and our tradition of water travel. As well as signifying our 3 major regions of North, Central, and South. The geometric designs are based off motifs attributed to the Illinois Confederacy tribe. The violet color is for our state flower. The gold color is for our prairies. The 3 blue waves are for the three major rivers of Illinois: The Illinois, Mississippi, and Ohio.



3262

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois for 27 years. Naperville citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue on the flag symbolizes the loyalty to the Union during the American Civil war, as well as the Mississippi River to the west of Illinois as well as Lake Michigan towards the east of Illinois, and its historical blue-collar workers. The Orange represents Illinois's large producer of pumpkins. The star in the center is surrounded by 20 stars symbolizing Illinois as the 21st state of the union, as well as Chicago. The flag overall is a unity between rural, white and blue collar workers.



3263

Relationship to Illinois

Native of Illinois since birth. I have never lived anywhere else.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

21 Stars Rising Flag The shape of the flag is inspired by the footprint of Fort Kaskaskia, the founding location of the state of Illinois. The violet field represents the state flower, the violet. The three blue shapes are for the three major rivers: the Illinois, Mississippi, and the Ohio. And the 20 stars plus the sun signify our entry into the union as the 21st state.



3264

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois since I was five years old, growing up near Chicago and attending school here. My family and I live in the suburbs of Hoffman Estates, and I spend a lot of time with them, but I also love exploring the city and learning about its history. Even though I'm still in high school, Illinois feels like a big part of who I am, and I can't imagine living anywhere else.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The silhouette of Illinois is the focal point, signifying the state's identity. The triangles meeting at the center symbolizes the convergence of urban, rural, northern, and southern parts into one cohesive state. The red ribbon echoes Illinois' motto. The color palette is consistent with earthy tones. These represent Illinois' fertile soil, agricultural heritage, and loyalty to the United States. Red symbolizes the willingness to stand firm, reflecting the state's role within the Union.

3265

Relationship to Illinois

██████████ (son) was born in Urbana, Illinois and lived here his entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the upper left, the corn represents the farmers of Illinois. In the upper right, the Chicago flag represents the Chicago metro area which holds 2/3 of the states population. The bottom right is a pirogue which represents the Native American populations. And finally, the bottom left shows the cardinal, Illinois' state bird. The gray lines that create the quadrants represent the railroads of Illinois.



3266

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Laia Hill and I was born and raised in the southwest side of Chicago, in the state of Illinois. I've lived here my whole life so I would say my relationship with Illinois is very close. Although I haven't explored other towns and cities in Illinois, I consider this state to be my place of home. I hope as I get older, I'll be able to explore all the beauty that Illinois has to offer.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The overall illustration of my flag represents the Illinois state bird, the Northern cardinal, flying in front of the rising sun that portrays the glory of Illinois. Under the yellow sun shows a blue section below the cardinal that represents Lake Michigan, including a thin blue line that goes across in the middle of the flag which represents the Illinois river.

3267

Relationship to Illinois

Born in and lived in Illinois my entire life. Graduated from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. My career has been designing improvements to Illinois transportation infrastructure.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue: Beauty, recreation & commerce of waterways (rivers, canals, Lake Michigan). State contributions to world art & culture. Green: Verdant prairies, forests & crops. Peace, equality & leadership. Black: Loss & sorrow. Illinoisan deaths in the Civil War & other wars. Wrongful treatment of indigenous peoples. Black border: Fertile soil, roads & railroads that make the state an agriculture and transportation hub. Black panel: Skyscrapers & grain silos. Black shapes combined evoke a stovepipe hat.

3268

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is split into blue and orange (colors of University of Illinois), representing the different sides of Illinois. Ex: Blue can represent Lake Michigan and urban while orange represent the prairies and rural. These contrasting sides are united by a butterfly (state insect) and a star (16-pointed to represent 16th U.S. President Lincoln, 5-pointed to represent union to U.S.A, $16 + 5 = 21$, Illinois being the 21st state) in colors of corn (state vegetable). The green resembles I for Illinois.

3269

Relationship to Illinois

If I had to describe Illinois, I would say it's full of memories. I was born here and lived here for all 16 years of my life. I've traveled all throughout Illinois, seeing all it has to offer. I love where I live, and that it has left an impact on who I am as a person.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Everything on my flag has something that I believe represents Illinois. I put a cardinal on my flag because not only is the cardinal our state bird, but the cardinal holds a special place in my heart. One thing that I wanted to capture in my flag is that even though we do have cities like Chicago in Illinois, a major part of our life is our farming legacy. So to convey that, I wanted to show the circle that most people know, and the outside of the circle that may not be as well known.

3270

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinoisan born and raised in Southern Illinois. I have travelled all over the United States but still have such a special feeling towards Illinois that no other state has been able to match. Illinois is my unique and diverse home-state that will always have a place deep in my heart, and Illinois is my home now and forever. I'm always proud to tell others of my state and what Illinois means to me! As Dan Fogelberg once said "Illinois, I'm your boy."



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Seeks to celebrate and unify all of Illinois: -A deep blue top represents Northern IL and IL waters such as Lake Michigan, and below it is a light blue wave for Chicago -A corn yellow background represents Central IL's rich farmland and other farms in N + S IL -A forest green pyramid base is for Southern IL's vast woods and Little Egypt nickname, and IL Native sites and people -The center emblem is based on the State Capitol's 1st floor rotunda: all colors of IL regions together in one emblem

3271

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago 52 years ago and when I was two years old my family moved to a small town in Missouri. Growing up I always rooted for the Chicago Cubs and Chicago Bulls and I had decided when I will grow up I will move to Chicago and I did. I raised my two children in the great state of Illinois and as I do often travel 6 1/2 hours to visit family in Missouri. I see our great state from the urban city of Chicago, to the suburbs where I live now, and the wide expanse of corn fields in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design feature a circular wreath of corn around the design I created as when I drive from Chicago to St. Louis all I see is corn. Also is a farmer plowing his field which represents the agriculture of our great state while at the same time giving credit to our state for the invention of the steel plow. Behind the farmer is the rising sun over water which shows the opportunity our great state offers. Above is a representation of the first Great Seal of Illinois with 21 stars, IL 21st state.

3272

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago 52 years ago and when I was two years old my family moved to a small town in Missouri. Growing up I always rooted for the Chicago Cubs and Chicago Bulls and I had decided when I will grow up I will move to Chicago and I did. I raised my two children in the great state of Illinois and as I do often travel 6 1/2 hours to visit family in Missouri. I see our great state from the urban city of Chicago, to the suburbs where I live now, and the wide expanse of corn fields in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design feature a circular wreath of corn around the design I created as when I drive from Chicago to St. Louis all I see is corn. Also is a farmer plowing his field which represents the agriculture of our great state while at the same time giving credit to our state for the invention of the steel plow. Behind the farmer is the rising sun over water which shows the opportunity our great state offers. Above is a representation of the first Great Seal of Illinois with 21 stars, IL 21st state.

3273

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life, as have my parents, and grandparents. All of my great-grandparents called Illinois home, and 12 of my 16 great-great grandparents lived in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features 21 stars for Illinois as the 21st state, with 105 points on the stars representing its 102 counties and 3 capitals. A cardinal feather honors Native American tribes and the state bird, with 18 divisions on each side marking Illinois' founding in 1818. The blue field echoes Civil War regimental flags and the fight for freedom for all peoples. The red, white, and blue color scheme symbolizes Illinois' loyalty to the United States and its enduring values.

3274

Relationship to Illinois

The paternal side of my family have been lifelong Illinoisans as long as we have been Americans. Soon after their families immigrated from Poland, my grandparents were both born and raised on the southwest side of Chicago. They then raised my father and his brothers in nearby suburban Chicago Ridge. A generation later, I was born and raised in the west Chicago suburbs. After attending college, I moved to Chicago with my wife where we have resided in various neighborhoods over the past 6 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white triangle represents the Great Lakes basin (with 5 waving stripes for the 5 lakes) evoking Lake Michigan's connection to the Illinois Waterway. At its central point, a gold 6-pointed star representing Illinois is flanked by 20 white stars, referencing Illinois' admission to the union as the 21st state. This design is intended to expand the application of the ever-popular "Chicago Star" beyond Chicagoland to become a state-wide symbol that can represent all of Illinois as a whole.

3275

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and I love it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I worked so hard on it. The blue curly line is a cloud, I added the state bird and American Eagle.



3276

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is split into blue & orange (colors of University of Illinois), representing the different sides of Illinois. Ex: Blue can represent Lake Michigan & urban while orange represents the prairies & rural. These contrasting sides are united by a star (16-pointed to represent 16th U.S. President Lincoln and the slogan "Land of Lincoln", 5-pointed to represent union to U.S.A, $16 + 5 = 21$, Illinois being the 21st state) in colors of corn (state vegetable). The star reflects who we are together.



3277

Relationship to Illinois

Lifetime resident of Springfield, Illinois. Fortunate enough to travel lots of other places, too, but my travels always just make me feel like Illinois is severely underrated.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue field to represent vast, open skies, as well as bodies of water (our major rivers and connection to the Great Lakes.) The monarch butterfly is our state insect, an important pollinator to our native plants, and a symbol of growth and change. The flower/star motif represents our prairies and nods to the Chicago state flag. The graphic elements are positioned in a circular manner, representative of the cycle of growth that sustains our agricultural industry and the people living here.

3278

Relationship to Illinois

The paternal side of my family have been lifelong Illinoisans as long as we have been Americans. Soon after their families immigrated from Poland, my grandparents were both born and raised on the southwest side of Chicago. They then raised my father and his brothers in nearby suburban Chicago Ridge. A generation later, I was born and raised in the west Chicago suburbs. After attending college, I moved to Chicago with my wife where we have resided in various neighborhoods over the past 6 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by S.T. Wallace's 1917 Springfield flag, the blue bars represent Lake Michigan and the Illinois Waterway as the most significant bodies of water in Illinois' development. In contrast, the central white bar represents the purity of the open prairie. In the center, 20 blue stars surround a red 21st star representing Illinois' admission to the union as the 21st state. The central star features 18 points, referencing the year of Illinois' statehood establishment, 1818.

3279

Relationship to Illinois

I (the flag designer) was born and raised in Illinois, and I have lived here for my entire life. It is the only home I have ever known. My parents immigrated here decades ago and lived in Chicago before I was born. I am incredibly grateful to have known Illinois my entire life and while it isn't perfect, I don't think I would rather live anywhere else. I love the natural beauty of Illinois and the biodiversity, and being able to experience all 4 seasons is such a privilege most don't realize.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design is inspired by the Chicago flag since I see that very often and I think the design of it is really beautiful. The specific red I used in the flag is cardinal red because the cardinal is a prominent state symbol. The green in the center of the flag represents Illinois' nature, and the overall design is inspired by a design on a painted hide by the Illini tribes that I found on their Wikipedia page. The two stars represent 20 of Illinois' 21 counties.

3280

Relationship to Illinois

The paternal side of my family have been lifelong Illinoisans as long as we have been Americans. Soon after their families immigrated from Poland, my grandparents were both born and raised on the southwest side of Chicago. They then raised my father and his brothers in nearby suburban Chicago Ridge. A generation later, I was born and raised in the west Chicago suburbs. After attending college, I moved to Chicago with my wife where we have resided in various neighborhoods over the past 6 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bars represent Lake Michigan & the Illinois Waterway, the most significant bodies of water in Illinois' growth. The white bar represents the purity of the open prairie. The central graphic is an evocation of the core imagery from the Great Seal and current flag of Illinois; A bald eagle clutching a US-style blazon in front of a rising sun. The shield contains 21 stars as Illinois was the 21st state in the union. The sun features 18 points, referencing Illinois' establishment year, 1818

3281

Relationship to Illinois

My parents are immigrants from South Africa, and I was born in St. Louis, Missouri. Shortly afterward, my family moved to Bloomington, Illinois, where I have lived my entire life. I deeply appreciate the rich and diverse culture of this state and have a passion for vexillology. This passion inspired me to design a flag that could serve as a symbol of hope and pride for my fellow Illinoisans.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The field is white, honoring the original flag and representing Illinois's clear skies. The bottom green bar is Lincoln green, signifying Illinois as the land of Lincoln. The ear of corn in the center symbolizes Illinois's status as the nation's breadbasket. Three seven-pointed stars form an "I" for Illinois, collectively representing its admission as the 21st state. The white lines breaking the green bar separate the corn from the ground and symbolize the Mississippi and Wabash Rivers.

3282

Relationship to Illinois

I am a public school music teacher who was born and raised in central Illinois. I went through the Urbana public schools, attended the University of Illinois, and now teach in the rural town of Cerro Gordo.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design features three fundamental elements that describe the state of Illinois. On the left is a skyscraper, representing the history of industry in the state. In the middle is a feather, celebrating the culture of the indigenous peoples who founded this land. On the right, is a cob of corn, for the importance of agriculture as one of the largest crop producing states. The colors are a union blue, green for our verdant prairies, and yellow to represent crops and the energy of Illinois.

3283

Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raised in Chicago and am a life long resident. My mother is from Chicago and my father is from Ottawa, Il. I have traveled the state far and wide, from Cairo to Rockford, Cahokia to Kankakee. I am a self proclaimed Chicago historian and have, as a singer songwriter, written many songs about our great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features a polygon shape that I created to represent the leaves on a corn stalk. At the top of the stalk sits the 6 pointed star found on Chicago's legendary flag, representing the harmonious synergy between Illinois rural agricultural heartland and our world class urban metropolis. The flag also features a tight cross representing our location as the crossroads of America and the railroad capital of the world. The large blank field is a loving nod to the states wide open spaces.



3284

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is central to my identity. Growing up in Lake County, I experienced the vibrant urban life of Chicago, the warmth of small towns, and the beauty of emerald farmlands. Involved in scouting, I explored every inch of the state, finding solace in nature at places like Starved Rock State Park. The changing seasons inspire me, reflecting personal growth. This state has been my home and teacher, leaving an indelible mark on my heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The grand oak leaf, our state tree, towers above the prairies, symbolizing strength. The 21 stars honor Illinois as the 21st state, as well as paying homage to Chicago. The Doric column reflects our state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union" as well as the many famous institutions built here. The central light represents the innovation and bright future of Illinois, shining a path toward prosperity. The circle of the stars represents our sense of community whether big or small still united



3285

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago 52 years ago and when I was two years old my family moved to a small town in Missouri. Growing up I always rooted for the Chicago Cubs and Chicago Bulls and I had decided when I will grow up I will move to Chicago and I did. I raised my two children in the great state of Illinois and as I do often travel 6 1/2 hours to visit family in Missouri. I see our great state from the urban city of Chicago, to the suburbs where I live now, and the wide expanse of corn fields in Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design feature a circular wreath of corn around the design I created as when I drive from Chicago to St. Louis all I see is corn. Also is a farmer plowing his field which represents the agriculture of our great state while at the same time giving credit to our state for the invention of the steel plow. Behind the farmer is the Chicago city skyline which shows how far our state has come while showing the urban and rural sides of our state which offer so much. 21 stars indicate Illinois 21st

3286

Relationship to Illinois

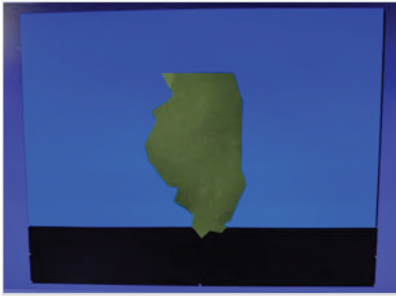
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3287



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, grew up in Illinois, went to college at the University of Illinois, got married in Illinois and have raised my own children in Illinois. Illinois has been my only home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the blue skies of our prairie state. The black represents the rich black soil. The green Illinois represents the crops and buildings rising from our soil.

3288



Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is central to my identity. Growing up in Lake County, I experienced the vibrant urban life of Chicago, the warmth of small towns, and the beauty of emerald farmlands. Involved in scouting, I explored every inch of the state, finding solace in nature at places like Starved Rock State Park. The changing seasons inspire me, reflecting personal growth. This state has been my home and teacher, leaving an indelible mark on my heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The grand oak leaf, our state tree, towers above the prairies, symbolizing strength. The 21 stars honor Illinois as the 21st state, as well as paying homage to Chicago. The Doric column reflects our state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union" as well as the many famous institutions built here. The central light represents the innovation and bright future of Illinois, shining a path toward prosperity. The circle of the stars represents our sense of community whether big or small still united

3289

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is split into blue and orange (colors of University of Illinois), representing the different sides of Illinois. Ex: Blue can represent Lake Michigan & urban while orange represent the prairies & rural. The butterfly (state insect) is on the orange side, while the stars are on the blue side. The butterfly (in colors of corn) represents us. The green resembles I for Illinois. The stars represent the milestones of Illinois, all points adding up to 21 to show how Illinois is the 21st state.

3290

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois since I was five years old, growing up near Chicago and attending school here. My family and I live in the suburbs of Hoffman Estates, and I spend a lot of time with them, but I also love exploring the city and learning about its history. Even though I'm still in high school, Illinois feels like a big part of who I am, and I can't imagine living anywhere else.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design of this flag blends respect for Illinois' traditional values (as shown by the historical motto and symbols like the eagle, White Oak leaves, and the Violet flower) with a vibrant, modern twist that celebrates its natural heritage. It emphasizes the state's pride in its identity, both as an independent sovereignty and as a vital part of the United States.

3291

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the Orland Park, a southwest suburb of Chicago. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I attended DePaul University and I now work as a graphic designer for Shedd Aquarium. I love to explore all that Illinois has to offer, especially doing trail rides on my bike.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow field represents the sun rising over both the water and the Prairie State as a symbol of a bright future ahead for Illinois. The blue field represents the bodies of water in Illinois including Lake Michigan and the rivers. The prairie grass stalk represents our Prairie State and the 21 florets symbolize Illinois as the 21st state in our union.



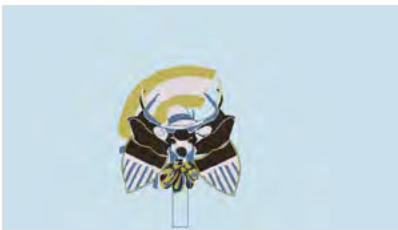
3292

Relationship to Illinois

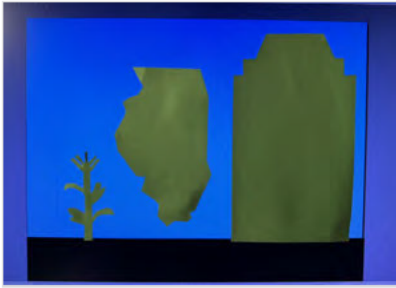
My interaction with the state of Illinois has been few and far between. My little sister lived there for a time and enjoyed everything except for the wind. My favorite athlete growing up was Michael Jordan. I'm also a musician, and Lollapalooza is a goal of mine. It's the premiere concert in a country known for its concerts.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

What America does best, other than concerts, is grass. That's where you would expect to find a white-tailed deer. Either there or eating your flowers, which is depicted in the design. Michael Jordan is my Captain America. Consequently, Cap's rainbow shield and the American shield from the previous Illinois seal both make an appearance. The deer is wearing Indy's fedora. The deer's name is Illinois Jones.



3293



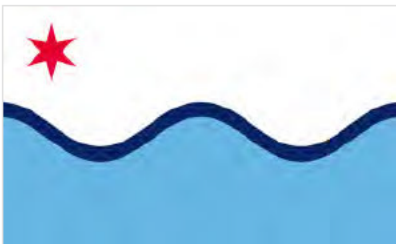
Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, grew up in Illinois, went to college at the University of Illinois, got married in Illinois and have raised my own children in Illinois. Illinois has been my only home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the blue skies of our prairie state. The black represents the rich black soil. The green images rising from the soil represent the crops of Illinois, the shape of Illinois and the buildings/skyscrapers of Illinois.

3294



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the western suburbs of Chicago for my entire life, and still consider Chicago, as well as Illinois more broadly, as both my home state and my favorite state in the country. My family has lived in Chicago since the 60s, when my grandparents immigrated to the country from Europe. Ever since, we have enjoyed the city of Chicago, as well as the state of Illinois for all its aspects, from the lake and Chicago, to the downstate cities and fields.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White represents the sky, sun, and the snow of winter. The red star represents the city of Chicago. Light Blue represents the water and landscape of the state, as well as the Great Lakes. The light blue and red are from the Chicago flag. Dark blue wave represents the rivers that connect the state and their importance for navigation and trade. The dark blue is from the bicentennial flag, representing the state's history. The red, white and blue matches the American flag without being derivative.

3295

Relationship to Illinois

My connection to Illinois starts at midlife. Separately, but within about a two-year period, my mother moved to southern Illinois for her work, my brother moved to northern Illinois for his job, and I moved to central Illinois for a job with a community college, where I met my husband who was born and raised in Chicago. We settled in Normal in 1998 and still live in our "starter" house there.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue recognizes that much of the shape of Illinois's borders and topography is defined by rivers, the I and M Canal, wetlands, Lake Michigan and the Mahomet Aquifer. Green signifies Illinois's agriculture, forests, nature areas, and the original, vast prairies that contained Illinois's Official State Prairie Grass, big bluestem. Gold represents the warmth of our citizens and the color of corn and soybeans at harvest. The star has 21 points, as Illinois is the 21st state admitted into the Union.

3296

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and am a current resident of Chicago where I have spent most of my adult life.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green half of the flag represents the prairies, farms, & forests in the southern and western parts of the state. The blue half of the flag on the top and left side represents Lake Michigan to the state's northeast. The railroad tracks move from the bottom left corner to the top right corner representing how railroads were instrumental to Illinois's past, & are continuing to take us through the future. The tracks also shows how railways connect Illinois communities across the state & beyond

3297

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, grew up in Illinois, went to college at the University of Illinois, got married in Illinois and have raised my own children in Illinois. Illinois has been my only home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the blue skies of our prairie state. The black represents the rich black soil. The green color of the map of Illinois represents our crops. The map is superimposed on an outline of a skyscraper representing our cities. And the word Illinois makes it obvious to all that this is the flag of Illinois.



3298

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Tinley Park, IL and continue to live here as a college freshmen at Governors State University in University Park, IL. Part of the reason I decided to stay in state for school is because of my history in Illinois and how comfortable I am here. With that in mind, there's also many places here that would allow me to explore and grow like the many amazing state colleges here. I will continue to live here where I am close to my family and able to pursue future endeavors.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used Illinois facts like the state bird, northern cardinal, and state flower, blue violet, to provide me with colors. Red is of courage, blue of tranquility, and purple of creativity. Illinois is a staple in history as a center for the arts, activism, and natural beauty. I created a wavy motion with the colors to not only bring some uniqueness to the flag, but to also symbolize Illinois distinctive weather. Chicago is often called the Windy City and the weather here can change like the wind.



3299

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois for my entire life. I was born in Litchfield and raised in Gillespie. For the first 22 years of my life, I lived in Macoupin County, and nearly all of my extended family lives in Illinois -- we descend from German, Scottish, and English immigrants who came to downstate Illinois to work in agriculture and coal mining. I am a proud SIUE Cougar. I lived in Springfield for a time, working for the state government, and I now live in Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green band in the middle represents the plains of Illinois, with the trapezoid emulating the Cahokia mounds. The stars on the left represent Kaskaskia, Vandalia, and Springfield, with the large star on the right representing Chicago. The blue band near the bottom represents the Illinois River. This flag combines elements of Illinois' natural landscape, Native American legacy, as well as the State's political and historical legacy.

3300

Relationship to Illinois

My connection to Illinois starts at midlife. Separately, but within about a two-year period, my mother moved to southern Illinois for her work, my brother moved to northern Illinois for his job, and I moved to central Illinois for a job with a community college, where I met my husband who was born and raised in Chicago. We settled in Normal in 1998 and still live in our "starter" house there.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue recognizes that much of the shape of Illinois's borders and topography is defined by rivers, the I and M Canal, wetlands, Lake Michigan and the Mahomet Aquifer. Green signifies Illinois's agriculture, forests, nature areas, and the original, vast prairies that contained Illinois's Official State Prairie Grass, big bluestem. Gold represents the warmth of our citizens and the color of corn and soybeans at harvest. The star has 21 points, as Illinois is the 21st state admitted into the Union.

3301

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the western suburbs of Chicago for my entire life, and still consider Chicago, as well as Illinois more broadly, as both my home state and my favorite state in the country. My family has lived in Chicago since the 60s, when my grandparents immigrated to the country from Europe. Ever since, we have enjoyed the city of Chicago, as well as the state of Illinois for all its aspects, from the lake and Chicago, to the downstate cities and fields.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Recoloring of my first submission. White represents the sky, sun, and the snow of winter. The red star represents the city of Chicago, and comes from its flag. The dark blue wave represents the rivers that connect the state, like the Illinois, Mississippi, and Chicago rivers, and their importance for navigation and trade in Illinois's history. The dark blue is from the bicentennial flag, representing the state's history. The red, white and blue matches the American flag without being derivative.

3302

Relationship to Illinois

As a fifth-generation Illinoisan, my journey began in Chicago 44 years ago today. I've toured the state for sports, business, and education, appreciating the consensus that our state is the heartland of America, unique and indispensable to the rest of the country and the world. In 2010 and 2012, I completed the Chicago Marathon. Additionally, my graphic design studio in Chicago focuses on inspiring humanity through creative ingenuity that is both intellectually sound and viscerally responsible.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag concept highlights the importance of our location. Left white: open prairies. Blue & white stripes: farms, transportation, architecture & the thirteen initial states to enter the union. Right baby & navy blue: Lake Michigan, unity, the union, & The Great Lakes. White & baby blue strip: engineering ingenuity that reversed the IL. River to provide clean water & future growth. There are 20 stars & 1 city star strategically placed to showcase being the 21st state & third largest city.

3303

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the Orland Park, a southwest suburb of Chicago. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I attended DePaul University and I now work as a graphic designer for Shedd Aquarium. I love to explore all that Illinois has to offer, especially doing trail rides on my bike.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue fields represent our bodies of water. The larger lower blue field represents Lake Michigan. The smaller upper field represents our rivers. The orange color evokes the sun rising over our state, representing the natural beauty of the Illinois and a bright future for Illinois. The 21 points of the stars represent Illinois as the 21st state in the union.

3304

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived in the state my whole life. I have always bonded with nature and tried to go out and about in Illinois as much as possible. I enjoy making art and have used nature as a basis for many of my creations. I am a High School senior at Lane Tech and aspire to use my abilities for the greater good.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is simplistic and childish. In the center, a whitetail deer represents nature within Illinois most notably the state animal. The state animal was chosen in 1980 by schoolchildren; this payoff between a state symbol in a childish drawing elevates the purpose of what Illinois represents. The background remains white and the text is the same color as the original design. This flag represents nature, growth, childhood, and traditional values.

3305

Relationship to Illinois

My connection to Illinois starts at midlife. Separately, but within about a two-year period, my mother moved to southern Illinois for her work, my brother moved to northern Illinois for his job, and I moved to central Illinois for a job with a community college, where I met my husband who was born and raised in Chicago. We settled in Normal in 1998 and still live in our "starter" house there.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue recognizes that much of the shape of Illinois's borders and topography is defined by rivers, the I and M Canal, wetlands, Lake Michigan and the Mahomet Aquifer. Green signifies Illinois's agriculture, forests, nature areas, and the original, vast prairies that contained Illinois's Official State Prairie Grass, big bluestem. Gold represents the warmth of our citizens and the color of corn and soybeans at harvest. The star has 21 points, as Illinois is the 21st state admitted into the Union.

3306

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and am a current resident of Chicago where I have spent most of my adult life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white stripe represents the wide open spaces of the prairie state. The 2 blue stripes echo the two blue stripes of the Chicago flag. The lower blue stripe represents the Mississippi River. The upper blue stripe represents Lake Michigan. The shield with 21 stars represents Illinois being the 21st state, and is an element of the current state flag. The shield is centered by a red ribbon as a nod to the red ribbon and state motto shown on the Great Seal of the State of Illinois.



3307

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the western suburbs of Chicago for my entire life, and still consider Chicago, as well as Illinois more broadly, as both my home state and my favorite state in the country. My family has lived in Chicago since the 60s, when my grandparents immigrated to the country from Europe. Ever since, we have enjoyed the city of Chicago, as well as the state of Illinois for all its aspects, from the lake and Chicago, to the downstate cities and fields.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Recoloring of my first submission. White represents the sky, sun, and the snow of winter. The blue star represents the city of Chicago. Light Blue represents the water and landscape of the state, as well as the Great Lakes, and comes from the Chicago flag. The dark blue wave represents the rivers that connect the state and their importance for navigation and trade in the history of Illinois. The dark blue is from the bicentennial flag, representing the state's history.

3308

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and have a personal connection to flagmaking, so I was extremely excited when this competition was revealed-Robi (her son, 17yo)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Firstly, the field of white represents the vast diverse lands of Illinois, the blue stripe represents the various historical, natural, and man-made waterways of Illinois, and the red represents the passion of the state's population and our connection to the United States. The yellow star in the canton represents unity across the state, is yellow represents the sunshine we get, and has 21 points to symbolize that Illinois was the 21st state to join the United States.

3309

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived and worked in Illinois for my entire life. I was born in Litchfield and raised in Gillespie. For the first 22 years of my life, I lived in Macoupin County, and nearly all of my extended family lives in Illinois--we descend from German, Scottish, and English immigrants who came to downstate Illinois to work in agriculture and coal mining. I am a proud SIUE Cougar. I lived in Springfield for a time, working for the state government, and I now live in Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green Trapezoid at bottom: Cahokia Mounds and the Native American legacy in Illinois
Blue Trapezoid at top: Unity within Illinois, as well as Illinois' Union legacy in Abraham Lincoln and the state's role in American history
Three blue stars: Kaskaskia, Vandalia, and Springfield (the largest of the three, as today's capital)
White Triangle at left: Illinois' past, incl. its historical capitals
White Triangle at right: Illinois' future, a blank canvas, to be determined by the people of Illinois.

3310

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Mascoutah, a town in Southern Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow shape on the right side of the flag is a simplified shape of the Illinois state, and it is yellow to represent one of Illinois' main crops, that being corn. The lavender color represents the state flower, the common blue violet. The blue represents the Mississippi River, and the yellow star has 18 points to represent the year that Illinois became a state, which was 1818.



3311

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident. I grew up in Troy and now live in Maryville. I love to travel around the state exploring state parks, visiting historic sites, and learning about Illinois history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's design symbolizes Illinois' rivers and waterways, with dark blue forming a triangle and bar that outline the shape of the state. The Mississippi River appears in the center, with Lake Michigan and the Wabash River on the right. These rivers have been vital throughout history. The star represents statehood, with eight points reflecting Illinois' central location. A green field on the left represents prairies and agriculture, while an angled blue line signifies momentum and innovation.



3312

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Respect

3313

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and have a personal connection to flagmaking, so I was extremely excited when this competition was revealed!!!-Robi (her son, 17yo)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Firstly, the field of white represents the vast diverse lands of Illinois, the blue stripe represents the waterways of Illinois, and the red represents the passion of the state's population and our connection to the United States. The yellow star represents unity, it's yellow represents the sunshine we get, and it has 21 points to symbolize that Illinois was the 21st state to join the United States. The convergence in the top right corner symbolizes Illinoisians coming together for the future.

3314

Relationship to Illinois

I am an immigrant from India and came to this great country 25 years ago the first place I came to was Illinois. It gave me the opportunity that would not be there in any other country. I raised by two children in Illinois and work as an ultrasound tech at Lurie Children's Hospital. I am inspired by the history and story of our great state which I have called home for almost 30 years. Working at a children's hospital I see the passion of those who live in our state and call it home and what they do.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the story of Abraham Lincoln and his humble beginnings he is seen with his axe. Above him is the second great seal of Illinois which would have been the seal when Lincoln was president. Behind Lincoln is the iconic log house Lincoln grew up in. Standing upon the landscape of Illinois and the water in the back with the rising sun. Which has 21 rays indicate Illinois was the 21st state with 21 stars surrounding him. Truly showing Illinois being the Lincoln as he lost his life for our land.



3315

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Respect

3316

Relationship to Illinois

I'm from Illinois, a place that has shaped my identity in countless ways. Though I've visited other states, nothing feels quite like home as Illinois does. My family has deep roots here; they immigrated to this land. I embrace the harsh winters, knowing they're part of what makes this place unique. Illinois offers a rich tapestry of cultures and environments, from sprawling farmlands to towering buildings. Each corner of this state tells a story, and I am proud to be apart of it.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted the flag to illustrate Illinois history, what we are known for and proud of. I included an arrowhead to represent the Native American roots of the Illiniwek, our namesake tribe. Of course Abraham Lincoln, the 13th president, hence the 13 blue stripes. I added Chicago and Lake Michigan to showcase the urban and natural beauty of the state. The corn stalk represents our agricultural foundation as the "corn state" and the 21 stars for the 21st state of the union.

3317

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the Orland Park, south of Chicago. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I attended DePaul University and I now work as a graphic designer for Shedd Aquarium. I love to explore all that Illinois has to offer, especially doing trail rides on my bike.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange stalks in the center represent a burning prairie as a symbol of hope and growth for Illinois as the Prairie State. Prairies are burned to maintain their health and diversity, and to support the plants and wildlife that live there. The half circle represents the sun rising over our state. The blue field represents Lake Michigan and our bodies of water. The yellow field represents the harvest of agriculture.



3318

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and am a current resident of Chicago where I have spent most of my adult life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white stripe represents the wide open spaces of the prairie state. The 2 blue stripes echo the two blue stripes of the Chicago flag. The blue stripes represents the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The sun is from the Great Seal of the State of Illinois and is shown rising over the water, similar to how the sun rises over lake Michigan when viewed from Chicago.



3319

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois ever since I moved from Poland. I think Illinois is a beautiful-welcoming state to anyone.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a dark blue background representing Lake Michigan. Then it has a light blue ring which demonstrates all the major rivers within Illinois. In the middle of the flag is a green White Oak, which represents our strength and endurance. The Oak is also green to represent all of the plants that Illinois has.



3320

Relationship to Illinois

I went to college in Peoria, Illinois (Bradley University) for four years to earn my Bachelor's Degree. I also have family - specifically an aunt, uncle, and cousins - who live in Chicago. My family and I will often go up to visit them and tour the city (go to Navy Pier, see the Cloud Gate ("bean") statue, and more). I also have a lot of friends who live in the city and surrounding towns (such as Naperville and Wheaton).



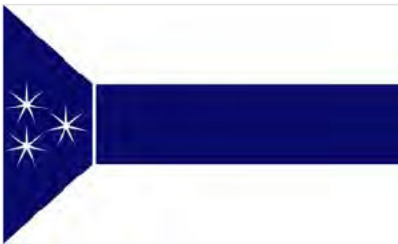
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The negative space on the right is the edge of Lake Michigan that borders Illinois. I flipped over to the left & found it made a stove top hat-like shape that represents the state's "Land of Lincoln" moniker. The 3 lines make up the hat's ribbon, denote the main agricultural exports (soybeans, corn, & swine) & create a road/tracks to symbolize travel/commerce. The top blue shape creates an "I"-like shape & the 18-pt. star represents Illinois' US representatives & the state's foundation in 1818.

3321

Relationship to Illinois

I am from Champaign County, Illinois. I have lived here for most of my life. I was born in September 1999 in Urbana, and I grew up in Savoy, Chicago, and Mahomet. My father, who teaches at the prestigious University of Illinois, grew up in Palatine and Rogers Park, and my grandparents and extended family all live in Skokie and the northern suburbs of Chicago. While I have occasionally temporarily moved elsewhere for brief periods for school and work, Illinois is my permanent home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My submissions are inspired by W. Rice's centennial flag. I chose a trapezoid to show Illinois' history. It resembles the Cahokia mounds of Indigenous innovation, the modern prairie-based architecture of Chicago-based F. L. Wright, and the futuristic Cloud Gate. Three 7-pointed stars symbolize Chicago, Central Illinois, and Little Egypt. "7" was Lincoln's House district when elected in 1860. $3 \times 7 = 21$, and Illinois is the 21st state. The blue shows Illinois' Union alliance. First variant provided.

3322

Relationship to Illinois

I went to college in Peoria, Illinois (Bradley University) for four years to earn my Bachelor's Degree. I also have family - specifically an aunt, uncle, and cousins - who live in Chicago. My family and I will often go up to visit them and tour the city (go to Navy Pier, see the Cloud Gate ("bean") statue, and more). I also have a lot of friends who live in the city and surrounding towns (such as Naperville and Wheaton).



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The negative space on the right is the edge of Lake Michigan that borders Illinois. I flipped over to the left & found it made a stove top hat-like shape that represents the state's "Land of Lincoln" moniker. The 3 lines make up the hat's ribbon, denote the main agricultural exports (soybeans, corn, & swine) & create a road/tracks to symbolize travel/commerce. The top blue shape creates an "I"-like shape & the 18-pt. star represents Illinois' US representatives & the state's foundation in 1818.

3323

Relationship to Illinois

I am from Champaign County, Illinois. I have lived here for most of my life. I was born in September 1999 in Urbana, and I grew up in Savoy, Chicago, and Mahomet. My father, who teaches at the prestigious University of Illinois, grew up in Palatine and Rogers Park, and my grandparents and extended family all live in Skokie and the northern suburbs of Chicago. While I have occasionally temporarily moved elsewhere for brief periods for school and work, Illinois is my permanent home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My submissions are inspired by W. Rice's centennial flag. I chose a trapezoid to show Illinois' history. It resembles the Cahokia mounds of Indigenous innovation, the modern prairie-based architecture of Chicago-based F. L. Wright, and the futuristic Cloud Gate. One 7-pointed star symbolizes the state, a slightly simpler option than my first variant. "7" was Abraham Lincoln's U. S. House district when elected in 1860. The blue shows Illinois' Union alliance. Second variant.

3324

Relationship to Illinois

I am a public school music teacher in central Illinois. I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived here my entire life. I attended the Urbana School District, the University of Illinois and now teach in the rural town of Cerro Gordo.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features the side portrait of Abraham Lincoln within the state outline of Illinois. He is surrounded by two blades of prairie grass (the prairie state), each with 18 seeds, with our founding in 1818. In the top right is a six-pointed star as a nod to the city of Chicago, placed in the NE corner. The colors are a union blue, a sky blue for the expansive Midwestern sky, and a cardinal red star, for our state bird.

3325

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Chicago, I have resided in Illinois ever since. I'm a proud employee of the Chicago Botanic Garden. In high school, my debate team took me across the state. We'd ride our bus past pumpkin patches, cornfields, and amber waves of grain, stopping in towns all along the way. My first job was at Steak 'n Shake (est. 1934 in Normal, IL). Whether it's visiting the Lincoln Library in Springfield, watching war reenactments in Rockford, or taking the "L" to catch a ballgame, I love my home state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

4 skinny blue stripes = the Mississippi, Illinois, Wabash, and Ohio Rivers
Blue diamond = Lake Michigan
3 white sections = northern, central, and southern IL
The white = snow covered fields
2 orange stripes = a split-rail fence and as such incorporate Lincoln into the design
The orange invokes images of fall and pumpkins.
The oak leaf marks the state capital on the map. The white oak is our state tree. This icon resembles the military rank thus incorporating veterans and Naval Stat. Great Lakes.

3326

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is made each day. I am a citizen, yet is Illinois not a family? I am a brother, I am a son, I am an uncle. For these days I have lived here in Illinois, for the best to worst, I have submitted my contest through little odds. I believe it is despite these odds, or rather for them, that makes who we are and our relationships in Illinois. I have reflected this within my three submissions.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first submission applies a compact design with nostalgic elements. I wanted this design to be synonymous with an identity. The badge at the center is flanked by a corn stalk and a wheat straw. Inside, a blue stripe represents the Kankakee River splitting reaped fields and an open dawn. There the Star Cardinal flies with a reminiscent shield above a quiet railroad showing strength and progress. The twenty-one stars coincide with our inauguration before a bold 'ILLINOIS.'



3327

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident. I grew up in Troy and now live in Maryville. I love to travel around the state exploring state parks, visiting historic sites, and learning about Illinois history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's design symbolizes Illinois' waterways, with dark blue forming a triangle and bar outlining the state's shape. The Mississippi River is on the left, Lake Michigan and the Wabash on the right. These waterways have shaped history, from Native American use to exploration, commerce, and recreation. The star represents statehood, with eight points reflecting Illinois' central location and providing symmetry. An additional angled blue line on the left signifies momentum and innovation.



3328

Relationship to Illinois

I am an immigrant from India and came to this great country 25 years ago the first place I came to was Illinois. It gave me the opportunity that would not be there in any other country. I raised by two children in Illinois and work as an ultrasound tech at Lurie Children's Hospital. I am inspired by the history and story of our great state which I have called home for almost 30 years. Working at a children's hospital I see the passion of those who live in our state and call it home and what they do.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the story of Abraham Lincoln and his humble beginnings he is seen with his axe. Above him is the second great seal of Illinois which would have been the seal when Lincoln was president. Surrounded by a wreath of corn which we see across the state and 21 stars as Illinois was the 21st state. Above is Illinois wrapped around the top. Lincoln holding the book shows the education of a great state and the axe the might of our state to withstand challenges we face and the determination of IL.



3329

Relationship to Illinois

I am from Champaign County, Illinois. I have lived here for most of my life. I was born in September 1999 in Urbana, and I grew up in Savoy, Chicago, and Mahomet. My father, who teaches at the prestigious University of Illinois, grew up in Palatine and Rogers Park, and my grandparents and extended family all live in Skokie and the northern suburbs of Chicago. While I have occasionally temporarily moved elsewhere for brief periods for school and work, Illinois is my permanent home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My final submission is my simplest and most elegant variant. I chose a trapezoid to show Illinois' history. It resembles the Cahokia mounds of Indigenous innovation, the modern prairie-based architecture of Chicago-based F. L. Wright, and the futuristic Cloud Gate. Three 7-pointed stars symbolize Chicago, Central Illinois, and Little Egypt. "7" was Lincoln's House district when elected in 1860. $3 \times 7 = 21$, and Illinois is the 21st state. The blue shows Illinois' Union alliance. Third variant.



3330

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Illinois resident since 2002.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Theme: Freedom in the Prairie State
The curved semi-circle on the right-side is similar shape to the state of Illinois. The end represents both a Native American traditional arrow shape and plant. The Eagle represents freedom, and has broken free from a chain, representing how Illinois was the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which abolished slavery in the US. The green and yellow colors represent the environment of the prairie state.

3331

Relationship to Illinois

I've been an Illinois boy (a 'Nois Bois :) my entire life. I was born in Springfield, Illinois, and I moved to Evanston, Illinois in 2004 to attend Northwestern University. I now live in Chicago with my wife and our 3-year-old daughter.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

16-petal prairie flower honors Lincoln, our greatest son
Yellow center: our vibrant, close-knit communities statewide
Varied petal lengths: diverse Illinois communities
White petals: our renewed commitment to honest government
Sun-like design: growth, optimism, bright future
Central placement: Illinois as Midwest's dynamic heart
Blue background: Mississippi River and Lake Michigan
Note: This submission is an evolution of my earlier submission (Image ID: 223).

3332

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived in the state my whole life. I have always bonded with nature and tried to go out and about in Illinois as much as possible. I enjoy making art and have used nature as a basis for many of my creations. I am a High School senior at Lane Tech and aspire to use my abilities for the greater good.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is simplistic and childish. In the center, a whitetail deer represents nature within Illinois most notably the state animal. The state animal was chosen in 1980 by schoolchildren; this playoff between a state symbol in a childish drawing elevates the purpose of what Illinois represents. The background remains white and the text is the same color as the original design. This flag represents nature, growth, childhood, and traditional values.

3333

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident. I grew up in Troy and now live in Maryville. I love to travel around the state exploring state parks, visiting historic sites, and learning about Illinois history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features a three-vertical-bar design, with blue sections symbolizing Illinois' rivers. These waterways have been crucial, from providing food and transport for Native Americans to exploration by Marquette and Joliet, aiding George Rogers Clark's Revolutionary War efforts, and supporting commerce today. The central prairie grass represents Illinois as the "Prairie State," symbolizing rich soil, agriculture, conservation, and renewal. Three stalks add symmetry to the design.

3334

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home for all of my 46 years. I've experienced life in its suburbs, rural areas, and cities * I was born in Park Ridge, educated at the University of Illinois in Champaign, and for more than 15 years an employee of the University of Illinois Chicago. My roots in Illinois run deep * in the late 1800s, my great-grandfather immigrated to Chicago to work as a cook at the Chicago World's Fair.* And now my wife and I are raising our daughter here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design features three red and four blue horizontal stripes, each representing key elements of Illinois. The blue stripes symbolize the state's four major rivers*Mississippi, Illinois, Wabash, and Ohio*while the red stripes represent the rural, suburban, and urban communities. The overlapping colors form purple, reflecting Illinois' diversity. A white, six-pointed star at the center represents the six state capitals. The red, white, and blue color scheme ties the design to the national flag.

3335

Relationship to Illinois

My origins here can be traced back to all 8 of my great-grandparents. Just like my grandparents/parents, I myself was born/raised in IL. I attended public school in Illinois from kindergarten through graduate school. Though I was raised in Chicagoland, I lived in Central IL for nearly 7 years, which caused me to truly fall in love with the entire state. Despite spending time in many places across the country/world, I choose Illinois as my home. (Please note: I go by "Hathaway", my middle name)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two blue portions: the Mighty Mississippi River & the Great Lake Michigan, as IL has historically served as the connection between them. In the center, corn (otherwise known as maize) has been & still is a significant staple crop here -agriculture being an essential aspect of the culture in every part of IL, whether Northern, Central, or Southern. Green circle: the prairies/flora supported by our renowned fertile soil. (As well as much more symbolism! I do not have enough space to type it out)

3336

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home for all of my 46 years. I've experienced life in its suburbs, rural areas, and cities * I was born in Park Ridge, educated at the University of Illinois in Champaign, and for more than 15 years an employee of the University of Illinois Chicago. My roots in Illinois run deep * in the late 1800s, my great-grandfather immigrated to Chicago to work as a cook at the Chicago World's Fair.* And now my wife and I are raising our daughter here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design features three blue stripes on a white background, with a six-pointed blue star centered within a white circle. The blue stripes represent the rivers that form Illinois' borders. The six-pointed star symbolizes the six capital buildings the state has had throughout its history. The blue star on the white circular field reflects the unity of Illinois' diverse people and communities, all striving toward a common goal of living fulfilling and happy lives.

3337

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home for all of my 46 years. I've experienced life in its suburbs, rural areas, and cities * I was born in Park Ridge, educated at the University of Illinois in Champaign, and for more than 15 years an employee of the University of Illinois Chicago. My roots in Illinois run deep * in the late 1800s, my great-grandfather immigrated to Chicago to work as a cook at the Chicago World's Fair.* And now my wife and I are raising our daughter here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my design the two blue halves represent Illinois's Northern and Southern regions, equal in size to reflect their equal contributions to the state's culture, beauty, and pride. Between them is a bold red circle symbolizing the heart of Illinois*our shared values, history, and goals for the future. It also reflects Illinois' central role in the country and as the heart of the Midwest. The white stripes add contrast while connecting the design to the aesthetics of both state and national flags.

3338

Relationship to Illinois

I am an immigrant from India and came to this great country 25 years ago the first place I came to was Illinois. It gave me the opportunity that would not be there in any other country. I raised by two children in Illinois and work as an ultrasound tech at Lurie Children's Hospital. I am inspired by the history and story of our great state which I have called home for almost 30 years. Working at a children's hospital I see the passion of those who live in our state and call it home and what they do.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the story of Abraham Lincoln and his humble beginnings he is seen with his axe. Standing upon the great Illinois prairie with the backdrop of the Chicago skyline it shows how much of built as a state. With 21 stars it surrounding Lincoln as Illinois was the 21st state in the union. Behind him is Lake Michigan which play a crucial role in the history and success of the great state of Illinois. Surrounded with the corn wreath and with the Illinois across the top it shows the story of IL.



3339

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Alsip, a southern suburb of Chicago, and have resided in Downers Grove for the past 19 years. My entire education, including my college degrees from Moraine Valley Community College and Columbia College Chicago, has taken place in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Symbolism: White Eagle: Represents resilience, accomplishment, inspiration 18 wing feathers = Year 1818, statehood 21 total feathers = 21st state Blue: The eagle gliding through the sky serves as a vision of freedom, but also the vast waterways. The blue hue pays homage to the global economic hub Chicago. White lines: The white lines indicate that Illinois serves as a central transportation hub of the United States. Green: Embodies the essence of the prairies and the field of agriculture.



3340

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I love Illinois's nature trails and enjoy exploring the beauty of Illinois from its forest to its prairies to its lakes.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's colors come from the original flag. The blue strip is for the Mississippi River and the blue triangle is for Lake Michigan. Green is for our prairies. The yellow sun is an element from the original flag and represents that Illinois is always striving for a brighter future. The sun has 16 rays for the 16th president Abraham Lincoln as a nod to our slogan "Land of Lincoln". The white space has 5 sides for Illinois's 5 neighbors, a nod to our motto "State Sovereignty, National Union".



3341

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is made each day. I am a citizen, yet is Illinois not a family? I am a brother, I am a son, I am an uncle. For these days I have lived here in Illinois, for the best to worst, I have submitted my contest through little odds. I believe it is despite these odds, or rather for them, that makes who we are and our relationships in Illinois. I have reflected this within my three submissions.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My second submission is titled, "The Star Cardinal At Dawn." The design was inspired by our current flag, yet transformed. A cardinal represents our twenty-first statehood by the star on its chest. It carries a reminiscent scroll embossed with our motto, as it flies, as our spirits, east to the rising sun above the blue Kankakee River. This dedicates our workforce.



3342

Relationship to Illinois

I attended Southern Illinois University Edwardsville from 2018 to 2022 and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering. Moving from Nepal at the age of nineteen, Illinois is the first state I called home in the U.S. and it will always hold a special place in my heart.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue on the left represents the Mississippi River, Illinois' western border. Green symbolizes Illinois' rich agriculture, natural resources, and its identity as the "Prairie State." A white oak leaf, the state tree, with 21 lobes symbolizes Illinois as the 21st state. Positioned near the left, the leaf also marks the 90th Meridian Line passing through the state. The yellow star in the top right honors Abraham Lincoln, and symbolizes unity and prosperity.

3343

Relationship to Illinois

I am a freshman and a 15 year old student at Reavis High School in Burbank, Illinois. I was born in Illinois and my family has stayed there, ever since. We have visited many places in our state, like downtown, Chicago, Starved Rock National Park, and many more. I have always liked the state of Illinois, just because of the rich history that our state has, both the past and the present. Also because of all the beauty of nature, and art that Illinois houses. I will always have a place in Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design is about many things about this state. It is about our big water systems that connect us, our large lush forest, and the big long prairies. On the sides of the Chicago river are our two famous skyscrapers, the Sears Tower on the bottom, and the John Hancock on the top of the river. The famous figure in the middle is where our slogan comes from, "The Land of Lincoln." with Lincoln's famous top hat and bow.

3344

Relationship to Illinois

I am a freshman and a 15 year old student at Reavis High School in Burbank, Illinois. I was born in Illinois and my family has stayed there, ever since. We have visited many places in our state, like downtown, Chicago, Starved Rock National Park, and many more. I have always liked the state of Illinois, just because of the rich history that our state has, both the past and the present. Also because of all the beauty of nature, and art that Illinois houses. I will always have a place in Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design is about many things about this state. It is about our big water systems that connect us, our large lush forest, and the big long prairies. On the sides of the Chicago river are our two famous skyscrapers, the Sears Tower on the bottom, and the John Hancock on the top of the river. The famous figure in the middle is where our slogan comes from, "The Land of Lincoln." with Lincoln's famous top hat and bow.

3345

Relationship to Illinois

I have an Illinois license. Illinois is where I grew up and still live as well as work. We moved here from California when I was five years old and eventually our extended family also moved here to join us. Even though I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago, the majority of my family lived in Chicago so I got to experience the city quite often. I have also had the chance to explore the rest of the state when visiting friends at college, doing recreational activities, and riding the Amtrak for fun.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Honored old flag retaining white bedsheet (peace & innovation) and used blues/red to complement USA & popular Chicago flag. Seal swapped for subtle fleur-de-lis inspired design a la our French origin. This is composed of corn, pumpkin, and soybean pods symbolizing our agriculture growing from the prairie (state nickname, 12 grass blades = December; 3 inflorescences = 3rd; 18 red stars = 1818). Also, 21 pentagrams for 21st state & 4-pointed stars for lake/river borders. I is formed = ILLINOIS.

3346

Relationship to Illinois

I lived in South Korea for the first six years of my life. However, since my father was born and raised in Illinois, I always visited the Chicago suburbs during my summer vacations. I finally moved here with my family when I was just about to enter the first grade. It's where all my friends live and where I've found my favorite spots in the world from my local library to the bubble tea place on the corner to the playground where I made my first friend in America. Illinois is my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I went for a very simplistic yet unique design. The state animal, the white-tailed deer, is front and center. This specific species of deer happens to be my favorite animal. I loved it so much that I even did a research project on it when I was in third grade. I also love the fact the deer was chosen as the state animal because schoolchildren voted for it. The light violet background symbolizes the state flower, the violet, which was also chosen as the state flower by schoolchildren.

3347

Relationship to Illinois

I have an Illinois license. Illinois is where I grew up and still live as well as work. We moved here from California when I was five years old and eventually our extended family also moved here to join us. Even though I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago, the majority of my family lived in Chicago so I got to experience the city quite often. I have also had the chance to explore the rest of the state when visiting friends at college, doing recreational activities, and riding the Amtrak for fun.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Honored old flag retaining white bedsheet (peace & innovation) and used blues/red to complement USA & popular Chicago flag. Seal swapped for subtle fleur-de-lis inspired design a la our French origin. This is composed of corn, pumpkin, and soybean pods symbolizing our agriculture growing from the prairie (state nickname, 12 grass blades = December; 3 inflorescences = 3rd; 18 red stars = 1818). Also, 21 pentagrams for 21st state & 4-pointed stars for lake/river borders. I is formed = ILLINOIS.

3348

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I love Illinois's nature trails and enjoy exploring the beauty of Illinois from its forest to its prairies to its lakes.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's colors come from the original flag. The blue strip is for the Mississippi River and the blue triangle is for Lake Michigan. Green is for our prairies. The yellow sun is an element from the original flag and represents that Illinois is always striving for a brighter future. The sun has 16 rays for the 16th president Abraham Lincoln as a nod to our slogan "Land of Lincoln". The white space has 5 sides for Illinois's 5 neighbors a nod to our motto "State Sovereignty, National Union".



3349

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life and attended schools here, I designed this flag for an art class to see how it may play out in the competition.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Starting with the colors, the red symbolized the colors of the University of Illinois Chicago, orange is for the university of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and the green symbolized the College of DuPage and its colors. For a connection to the previous flag and a piece of Illinois history, I kept the Old Glory Blue that the previous flag used. The Centerpiece is of course the state animal -Whitetail deer-and the formation of the stars symbolized a flying V that you may see geese make migrating.



3350

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is made each day. I am a citizen, yet is Illinois not a family? I am a brother, I am a son, I am an uncle. For these days I have lived here in Illinois, for the best to worst, I have submitted my contest through little odds. I believe it is despite these odds, or rather for them, that makes who we are and our relationships in Illinois. I have reflected this within my three submissions.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My third submission has a competitive design. A center streak symbolizes the rolling fields you see across Illinois. The blue edges are of the Kankakee and Mississippi Rivers, respectively. The star inside relates to Chicago's flag and the sun within our current state flag. This eastern position represents the citizenry's commute throughout the State. Its colors and bold motto is to illuminate at staff.



3351

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

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3352

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3353

Relationship to Illinois

I live in city always loved it great state and place to live love the history,I studied history in school and always enjoyed it that is why i drew what I did.Work in the city but when I leave it's like I miss it.I love Illinois and will always live in it and always come back no matter where k go despite my traveling job.I will always call Illinois home as I have always loved it.I referenced my design based ont he history of the state and is something I find amazing from the start of the foundin

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design feature a circular wreath of corn around the design as it makes up a big part of the state. My first design feature a circular wreath of corn around the design I created as when I drive from Chicago to St. Louis all I see is corn.Also is a farmer plowing his field which represents the agriculture of our great state while at the same time giving credit to our state for the invention of the steel plow.The skyline and the 21 stars show how great of a state we are and the 21 stars IL



3354

Relationship to Illinois



The flag's colors come from the original flag. The blue triangles are for the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. Green is for our prairies. The yellow sun is an element from the original flag and represents that Illinois is always striving for a brighter future. The sun has 16 rays for the 16th president Abraham Lincoln as a nod to our slogan "Land of Lincoln". The white space is a nod to the original flag's white background.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I was born and raised in Illinois. I love Illinois's nature trails and enjoy exploring the beauty of Illinois from its forest to its prairies to its lakes.

3355

Relationship to Illinois



I've been an Illinois boy (a 'Nois Bois :) my entire life. I was born in Springfield, Illinois, and I moved to Evanston, Illinois in 2004 to attend Northwestern University. I now live in Chicago with my wife and our 3-year-old daughter.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

5-petal prairie flower: Chicago, Suburbs, North, Central, South IL
Red endangered Silene regia: vibrant communities made stronger through stewardship and care
16-rail fence: honors Lincoln, 16th President
Closed loop: interwoven communal bond
White: our renewed commitment to honest government
21 elements (5+16): 21st state
Flower over fence: heritage-rooted, future-growing
Central placement: Midwest's dynamic heart
Blue: Mississippi River, Lake Michigan
Colors: Union and American ideals

3356

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinoisan. I graduated from U. of I. and started my family in Elgin; I live in Berwyn now. Growing up, I camped around the state with my grandparents and dad. My wife and I fell in love while exploring our state; we got engaged on the Mississippi River at Nauvoo. I have been a public servant in transit and libraries my whole career; in my spare time, I give Illinois travel lectures at Chicagoland libraries under the moniker "Mr. Illinois." I love Illinois*our whole state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Prairie Beacon concept leverages the state's internationally-known "Prairie Style," which hearkens to Illinois architects who drew their inspiration from the grand prairie that covered our state. The grass icon pays tribute to our natural heritage, the crops we grow and trade, the stunning architecture we create, and our growth as a people. The beacon icon conveys how our example*the work of brilliant and pioneering Illinoisans from Cahokia on*has illuminated the Midwest and nation.

3357

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Joliet, raised in Lockport Township, attended SIU - Carbondale for Architecture, attended Dominican University in River Forest for Library Science, and reside in Edgewater, Chicago. I have always loved Illinois' outsized role in so many facets of humanity. That "The Chicago School" needs disambiguation and "Plays in Peoria" is bellwether for the nation. How many fields and endeavors start here. From Lincoln to skyscrapers to nuclear power to more. Our prairie roots stretch far and wide.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

10 Stars: 10 Northern States that preceded Illinois into the Union
1 Bar: Lake Michigan, Great Canal, Fox, Rock, Illinois, & other rivers
1 Garb: 21 blades of Prairie, Corn, and Wheat lashed with XXI so as to appear as Roman Numeral 21 when hung vertically representing Illinois as the Prairie State & 21st State in the Union
1 Bar: The Great Confluences of Wabash, Ohio, & Mississippi
10 Stars: 10 Southern States that preceded Illinois into the Union
Color: Golden Prairie Yellow, Verdant Field Green

3358

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Danville, Illinois. I went to Danville Area Community College, and then the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Illinois is a beautiful place to live. My family has been for 3 generations. Central Illinois here has all I need.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I personally love our current flag. I understand wanting something more than the seal, but I've always found our flag stands out well among others, and the meanings behind the design are really important. I re-drew the seal from scratch, keeping some things, but trying to include iconic pieces that represent our state. I used mostly colors from the seal. The sun rises a little higher, and very importantly our position as the country's number one producer of pumpkins is prominently on-display!



3359

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Danville, Illinois. I went to Danville Area Community College, and then the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

I personally love our current flag. I understand wanting something more than the seal, but I've always found our flag stands out well among others, and the meanings behind the design are really important. I re-drew the seal from scratch, keeping some things, but trying to include iconic pieces that represent our state. I used mostly colors from the seal. The blue represents the union in the war. Importantly, our position as the country's number one producer of pumpkins is prominently on-display!



3360

Relationship to Illinois

I am 18 years old and have lived my entire life in Chicago. I currently am attending college in the city as I wanted to stay in state due to my love for it. I enjoy history and science greatly and a lot of it can be found in this great state. My family has lived in Illinois for many years and being the daughter of an immigrant I am glad to participate in this historic opportunity. I live in the city and truly enjoy it and the hardworking out in my every resident of Illinois to build the great state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

On the flag is the western side of the map of Illinois which is the Mississippi River which as we know was very important to the state of Illinois for trade and economic growth of the state itself. Featuring the River it adds character to the flag of our state and shows the history with just a flag. ON THE RIGHT is a circular seal which is the reverse of the Army National Guard insignia which shows the protection the national guard gives to our state while commemorating Abraham Lincoln & state.

3361

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinoisan. I graduated from U. of I. and started my family in Elgin; I live in Berwyn now. Growing up, I camped around the state with my grandparents and dad. My wife and I fell in love while exploring our state; we got engaged on the Mississippi River at Nauvoo. I have been a public servant in transit and libraries my whole career; in my spare time, I give Illinois travel lectures at Chicagoland libraries under the moniker "Mr. Illinois." I love Illinois*our whole state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Prairie Horizon concept leverages the state's internationally-known "Prairie Style," which hearkens to Illinois architects who drew their inspiration from the grand prairie that covered our state. The grass icon pays tribute to our natural heritage, the crops we grow and trade, the stunning architecture we create, and our growth as a people. The bright horizon symbolizes our future and how the work of brilliant, pioneering Illinoisans from Cahokia on*has illuminated the Midwest and nation.

3362

Relationship to Illinois

Born at Weiss Memorial Hospital. Lived in Westtown as a child. Graduate of Ellen Mitchell Elementary School, Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, and University of Illinois at Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Brown circle represents the penny with President Lincoln face, green leaf represents the soybean and corn and the majority of Illinois people, red feather represents the original people of Illinois, black silhouette of the Sears Tower represents the state's biggest city Chicago, dark blue represents the water of Lake Michigan and Illinois river, sky blue color represents the sky's-the-limit attitude and the yellow circle represents the Sun, hope for future. History, future, business, hope



3363

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Danville, Illinois. I went to Danville Area Community College, and then the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Illinois is a beautiful place to live. My family has been for 3 generations. Central Illinois here has all I need.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I personally love our current flag. I understand wanting something more than the seal, but I've always found our flag stands out well among others, and the meanings behind the design are really important. I re-drew the seal from scratch, keeping some things, but trying to include iconic pieces that represent our state. I used mostly colors from the seal. The blue represents the union in the war. Importantly, our position as the country's number one producer of pumpkins is prominently on-display!



3364



Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois all my life. My parents both worked in government institutions of the state and so have I. It's the only place I have called home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Antlers of the white tailed deer twined with violets are two of our state symbols to center the flag. The golden slopes on either side represent the "prairie" part of the Prairie State, as well as golden cornfields and the wings of a monarch butterfly.

3365



Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinoisan. I graduated from U. of I. and started my family in Elgin; I live in Berwyn now. Growing up, I camped around the state with my grandparents and dad. My wife and I fell in love while exploring our state; we got engaged on the Mississippi River at Nauvoo. I have been a public servant in transit and libraries my whole career; in my spare time, I give Illinois travel lectures at Chicagoland libraries under the moniker "Mr. Illinois." I love Illinois*our whole state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Prairie Beacon concept leverages the state's internationally-known "Prairie Style," which hearkens to Illinois architects who drew their inspiration from the grand prairie that covered our state. The grass, catching light, pays tribute to our natural heritage, the crops we grow and trade, the stunning architecture we create, and our growth as a people. The beacon conveys how our example*the work of brilliant and pioneering Illinoisans from Cahokia on*has illuminated the Midwest and nation.

3366

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for as long as I can remember, and have family all across the state. Growing up in the tiny town of Moweaqua, I have had great exposure to the rich agriculture and nature of Illinois. Due to this, every time I visit the city of Chicago I am mesmerized by its sheer scale and bustling population. I have traveled through and spent time in not just important but unimportant spots throughout Illinois, getting to know all of what the state has in store.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I sought to capture unity between Illinoisians in my flag. The central six pointed star--in reference to the Chicago flag--is the 21st star on the flag meant to represent Illinois as the 21st state in the US. The light blue--also in reference to the Chicago flag--represents Lake Michigan. The 13 orange and gold stripes, made to look like a horizon, are a nod to the US flag and represent the agriculture and nature of our Prairie State.

3367

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and grew up in Illinois near Alton. I grew up and also went to college here (SIUE). Most of my family is still there. I moved right across the river for work a few years ago, but I am frequently back in my home state visiting family and friends. My intent with the design is to bring elements of our state's identity and history together to create a flag all Illinoisans can be proud of and identify with, that could be proudly flown in Chicago as well as Champaign, Alton, or Marion.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue waves represent the 4 rivers giving IL its shape, with the larger Lake Michigan at the top. The rivers & Lake greatly influenced Illinois culture, history, and economy. 2 deer - the state mammal, and a food source going all the way back to Native Americans - stand rampant for our tenacious spirit. Center stage is a six sided star from Chicago's flag. Each buck has 10 antler points. $10 \times 2 + 1 \text{ star} = 21$ for the 21st state. A minimalist/modern design with a flair for old European heraldry.

3368

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Chicago-based visual artist and I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I also received my artistic training in Illinois, receiving a B.S. in Studio Art from Elmhurst University in Elmhurst, IL.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I propose a 3-paled flag of blue, white, and green. Blue for our state's waterways. White in reverence of Illinois' indigenous tribes. And green for our prairies and agriculture. The middle pale forms a graphic capital "I" containing a 5-pointed star for Springfield and a small 6-pointed star for Chicago. When limp, the flag evokes a typical prairie vista; an open sky with clouds on the horizon over vast tall grasses. As a whole, this design celebrates our land and serves to unite Illinoisans.

3369

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinois citizen. I attended University of Illinois Chicago. My daughter currently attends University of Illinois Champagne/Urbana.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star's 21 rays represent Illinois as the 21st state of the union and symbolizes our great state as a geographic and economic hub. The color white represents striving to be a beacon of virtue. The green field represents Illinois' agricultural bounty and natural resources. The blue field is a nod to iconic bodies of water*the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The segmented fields recognizes the diversity of communities that make up our state. 10:19 proportions equal the US flag.

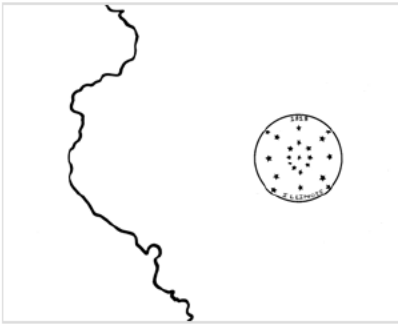
3370

Relationship to Illinois

I am 18 years old and have lived my entire life in Chicago. I currently am attending college in the city as I wanted to stay in state due to my love for it. I enjoy history and science greatly and a lot of it can be found in this great state. My family has lived in Illinois for many years and being the daughter of an immigrant I am glad to participate in this historic opportunity. I live in the city and truly enjoy it and the hardworking out in my every resident of Illinois to build the great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features the Mississippi River which border the western side of the Illinois state. Knowing the history of our state the importance of the Mississippi River to the growth and development was crucial. By showing this on the flag we can see the history of our great state. On the right is a seal I created which has 21 stars as it was the 21st state and the organization of the flag can be seen as the battle flag of several Union regiments during the Civil War. 250,000 Illinoisans served CW.



3371

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of the state of Illinois for my entire 19 years of life, and it is a place I hold near and dear as well as calling it my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois was a major cultural port for trade and people in its founding days.



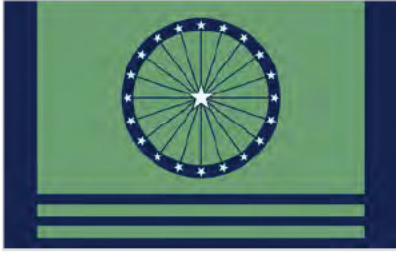
3372

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago in 2012, and I've lived in Illinois since then. My two children were born here. I worked for state government for about two and a half years from 2016 to 2019. From 2019 to present, I have been working as an attorney for school districts, community colleges, and other local government clients across the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue columns represent Lake Michigan and rivers that form Illinois borders. The green field and horizontal stripes are the color of the Prairie State's official prairie grass. They also represent row crops, several of its major agricultural products. The stars represent Illinois as the twenty-first state. The large star reflects how Illinois serves as a "hub" for innovation and transportation, symbolized by the wheel. The Ferris Wheel is also a famous invention from the 1893 World's Fair.



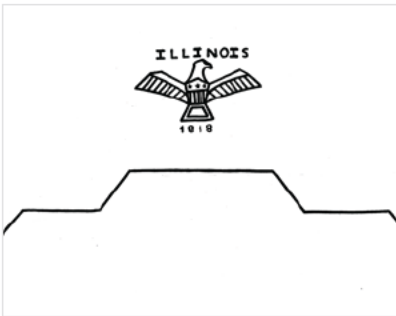
3373

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag depicts the Cahokia mounds which are the earliest prehistoric site in the state and show the earliest story of missippian native Americans who inhabited the state before the French and the United States. Above it is a modern depiction of the birdman which is in iconic drawing found at Cahokia that relates to the United States. Above it is Illinois and the statehood date of which Illinois was found in. Giving a modern look to a state flag and allows the Illinois flag to become an icon.



3374

Relationship to Illinois

I am [REDACTED], the son of Thao Lee, I have lived in [REDACTED] Illinois for all of my 15 years of my life, I do want the flag commission to know, I'm not the best with measurements so some parts may not align that well but the flag itself is finished



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The baby blue and the green in the flag is used to represent the bright blue skies and the green grass of Illinois to emphasize the nickname of the Prairie State, the violet is the state flower and it was an idea I had for a long time, and I wanted to emphasize the state bird the cardinal, Illinois is one of seven states having the cardinal as the state bird so why not be the first to have it on the flag and the shield I would say is to make sure the old flag is not forgotten.

3375

Relationship to Illinois

My origins here can be traced all the way back to all 8 of my great-grandparents coming to Illinois. Just like my grandparents/parents, I was also born/raised in IL. I attended public school in IL from kindergarten through graduate school. I have lived in many rural, suburban, & urban places across IL, and I truly love the state with all my heart. Despite spending time in many places across the country/world, I still choose Illinois as my home. (Please note: I go by "Hathaway", my middle name)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Initially was just blue/white, as it was intended as a modern, yet timeless, reinterpretation of the Illinois Centennial flag - a design that I have admired for years. However, I decided to make it red/white/blue for numerous reasons (as well as identical hex codes to current state flag, for sake of continuity) - especially with Illinois having long been considered the most quintessentially American of the 50 states, both quantitatively & qualitatively (much more symbolism-but no space to type)

3376

Relationship to Illinois

My beautiful and lovely girlfriend is a citizen of Illinois, and I wanted to submit this flag design in her honor to hopefully, maybe, have this one day become the official flag of Illinois in my attempt to not only bring a new life to the her homeland, but also bring a flag built with love to flag over this beautiful state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The triangles on the side represent the land and prairies of Illinois, with the swirling lines within them representing the Mississippi River and how it splits across the south of the state of Illinois. The Butterfly represents the state insect of Illinois, while the star in the center represents the state's star on the US flag. The columns beneath the butterfly represent the urban might of the state of Illinois, being home to Chicago and Springfield, while the blue background is the Great lake.

3377

Relationship to Illinois

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3378

Relationship to Illinois

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3379

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since I was about 10 years old. My family moved here because my father had a better job opportunity. I've lived in the Chicago metro area, first in Streamwood in Cook County and then in Lindenhurst in Lake County. I spent the latter part of my youth here, and I have come to love the state of Illinois and the city of Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripes were inspired by the Mississippi River, with the stripes to the right representing the Chicago and Illinois rivers cutting across the state. The blue star has six points to match Chicago's flag while being blue in white to represent the many lakes of the state. The shade of green resembles the nice deep colors the leaves of the forests where I live often take on, it reflects natural beauty. The white represents the hope, determination, and light that Illinois brings to America.

3380

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived my whole life in the state. I attended the state funded Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy for high school and attended the state funded University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for college. I currently work for a company that has been headquartered in Illinois for over a century.



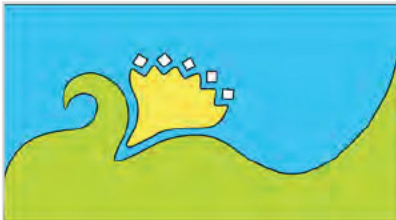
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white stripe is a remnant of the current white field of the existing Illinois flag, with the orange stripes representative of the large pumpkin growing industry in the state. The green ring represents the large Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois and the yellow ring represents the state wide agricultural identity. The blue field represents the many rivers and also Lake Michigan. The white star is centered and representative of Illinois as one of the stars in the USA Flag.

3381

Relationship to Illinois

I born in Illinois and have spent my whole life here. I even went to college in central Illinois and all my employment experience has been here, mostly centered around the Chicagoland.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted the flag to pay homage to the "Prairie State," with the entire image representing growth and abundance. The blue represents our border to the great lakes and the idea that water is needed for a land to thrive. The green is representative of our fertile farmland and serves to anchor the yellow by creating the shape of corn as a representation of one of Illinois biggest crops. The five white diamonds are representative of the state's location, showing we share borders with five states.

3382

Relationship to Illinois

I am [REDACTED], the son of Thao Lee, I have lived in [REDACTED] Illinois for all of my 15 years of my life, I do want the flag commission to know, I'm not the best with measurements so some parts may not align that well but the flag itself is finished

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and the green in the flag is used to represent the bright blue skies and the green grass of Illinois to emphasize the nickname of the Prairie State, the violet is the state flower, I wanted to emphasize the state bird the cardinal, as Illinois is one of seven states to have it, so why not be the first to have it on the flag, and it is in the same position of the Eagle on the old flag so the shield placed next to it, showing the old flag is at least not forgotten.



3383

Relationship to Illinois

I visited Chicago, Illinois several times as a tourist.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a simple, colorful, and easily recognizable flag that would stand out from other state flags; while giving Illinois a beautiful unique flag to be proud of. Green represents the natural beauty of the state. Blue represents the various lakes and rivers of the state. Gold represents the wealth of Illinois. Black represents fortitude and perseverance.



3384

Relationship to Illinois

I am a current resident of Illinois and possess an Illinois driver's license. I moved to Illinois from Florida in August of 2022 to attend graduate school at the University of Illinois Chicago, from which I graduated with a master's degree in May of 2024.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

On the hoist side, the three color blocks represent Northern, Central (with the rotated star representing Springfield), and Southern Illinois. The red pentagon points forward symbolizing progress. A total of 21 stars represent Illinois as the 21st State. Hung vertically, the flag becomes a map of Illinois with the red, six-pointed star representing Chicago and Northern Illinois, flanked by Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River in blue. The red pentagon resembles the shape of southern Illinois.

3385

Relationship to Illinois

N/A

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Red, white, and blue represent the colors of the American flag, which resembles Illinois' loyalty to the Union during the Civil War. Red also represents the colors of the north cardinal, its national bird, and the blood sacrificed. The cross represents the Cross At The Crossroads in Effingham, arguably the largest cross in the U.S. The cardinal faces a six-pointed star on the top right, signifying Chicago's location and Illinois' title as the 21st state in addition to the other 20 stars.



3386

Relationship to Illinois

Born at Weiss Memorial Hospital. Graduated from Ellen Mitchell School, Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, and the University of Illinois. Lived in Westtown as child. Married fellow Whitney Young graduate, who was born at UIC hospital.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Brown circle represents President Lincoln on penny. Green leaf represents soybeans and corn and people in vast Illinois. Red feather represents original people of Illinois. Black silhouette of Sears Tower represents Illinois biggest city, Chicago. Dark blue represents the water of Lake Michigan and Illinois River. Sky blue color represents the sky's-the-limit attitude. Yellow circle represents the Sun, hope for future. History, future, industry. Symbol can be seal. Vertical or horizontal



3387

Relationship to Illinois

Immigrant 6 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag standing for Illinois with the only blue color and the snowflake. The blue background symbolizes for the vastness of rivers and lakes a thing associated with the state. Beside it, the snowflake on the flag represents the diversity of nature in Illinois, the fertile land with strong agricultural development. This combination creates the flag with message modernity, diversity and constant development of Illinois.



3388

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, growing up in the northern part of the state and attending college here as well. My family has lived here since they immigrated from afar, with my own parents dealing with and surviving the hardships of the Plainfield Tornado only to rebuild stronger. I myself have found their struggle empowering and took up the torch from them in trying to build a better world.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors: The Yellow/Gold represents two things - the bright sun commonly found here, as well as the vast open fields that dominate the state. The blue represents the open sky, while also the waters of lake Michigan and the Illinois river. The White and Blue, as well as the general design, is an homage to the centennial flag, which I have seen many fellow people from our state praise. This first design is the minimalist version, I will also submit more decorated ones.

3389

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, growing up in the northern part of the state and attending college here as well. My family has lived here since they immigrated from afar, with my own parents dealing with and surviving the hardships of the Plainfield Tornado only to rebuild stronger. I myself have found their struggle empowering and took up the torch from them in trying to build a better world.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Colors: The Yellow/Gold represents two things - the bright sun commonly found here, as well as the vast open fields that dominate the state. The blue represents the open sky, while also the waters of lake Michigan and the Illinois river. The White and Blue, as well as the general design, is an homage to the centennial flag, which I have seen many fellow people from our state praise. This first design is the minimalist version. This is my first submission.

3390



Relationship to Illinois

Born at Weiss Memorial Hospital. Graduated from Ellen Mitchell School, Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, and the University of Illinois. Lived in Westtown as child. Married fellow Whitney Young graduate, who was born at UIC hospital.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Brown circle represents President Lincoln on penny. Green leaf represents soybeans and corn and people in vast Illinois. Red feather represents original people of Illinois. Black silhouette of Sears Tower represents Illinois biggest city, Chicago. Dark blue represents the water of Lake Michigan and Illinois River. Sky blue color represents the sky's-the-limit attitude. Yellow circle represents the Sun, hope for future. History, future, industry.

3391



Relationship to Illinois

N/A

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design is based on the Centennial Flag, which sports white and blue. The blue resembles Illinois' loyalty to the Union during the Civil War. The cross represents the Cross At The Crossroads in Effingham, arguably the largest cross in the U.S. The two stripes represent the separate regions of the urban north and the rural south. The cardinal faces a six-pointed star on the top right, signifying Chicago's location and Illinois' title as the 21st state in addition to the other 20 stars.

3392

Relationship to Illinois

I am a life-long resident of Illinois who has been across the state and seen its many natural and civil wonders. In addition, with nearly my entire family residing in this state spread across the Chicagoland area, I have also experienced the many different walks of life that can be enjoyed in this state from the city lights to the quietness of a suburban home. As such, Illinois is where I live, but it is also where my heart resides.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two horizontal maize bands represent agriculture (specifically corn, hence the color), an important part of Illinois culture. The middle blue band represents the clear sky that encompasses all Illinoisans regardless of their differences. The middle of the flag depicts a red cardinal, one of the primary symbols of Illinois itself.

3393

Relationship to Illinois

N/A

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Red, white, and blue represent the colors of the American flag, which resembles Illinois' loyalty to the Union during the American Civil War. Red also represents the colors of the north cardinal, its national bird, and the blood sacrificed. The cardinal faces a six-pointed star on the top right, signifying Chicago's location and Illinois' title as the 21st state in addition to the other 20 stars surrounding the cardinal.



3394

Relationship to Illinois

Being a first-generation Latina within Illinois has given me a rich connection to the culture and place to call home. My family chose to build a brighter future in this very state, specifically Summit, Illinois, a small but mighty Chicago suburb, and I love my community more than anything. I am currently at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, studying Graphic Design and Political Science, in order to truly represent the stories of our communities and amplify their voices.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my design, I decided to honor the beautiful nature in Illinois to that ground community. Highlighting the state insect, the monarch butterfly, as a form of life and the long ways traveled making up the rich histories of Illinoian residents. Within the wings, one can find the state's white oak leaves, violet flowers, and wood textures to reference the historically prospering lumber industry. I lastly chose to honor Chicago's presence as the Illinoian center of culture with the 6-point star.



3395

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois majority of my life. Chicago for the most part.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

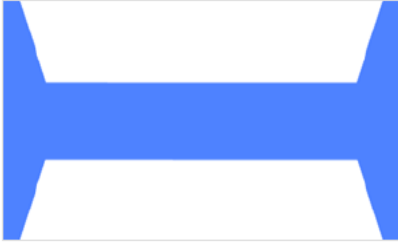
To start I left some of the design the same to hold some history in there. Illinowek=best people. YES, I added 1970 on the rock because, no it wasn't our last change to the IL. constitution but it was one of the most important ones. It was where we gave rights to ALL. The Preamble of IL. that we stand by that reps us best! The Eagle upholds our state motto. The Eagle reps America but we're about in the center, hence our state bird, Cardinal. Purplish for our flower lilac. There's the shape of IL.



3396

Relationship to Illinois

Longtime Illinois resident.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

From antiquity, Lake Michigan, the Mississippi, and the Illinois*and their rich shores*have been vital for Illinoisans. Tying Great Lakes to Mississippi River System (18* gussets*1818), the fess depicts the Illinois Waterway, long used by native Illinoisans for exchange, central to the Jolliet-Marquette voyage, and later built through as a key link in the young U.S.*union. Recalling Cahokia, the distinct trapezoids evoke Illinois' prairies and fertile lands*sovereignty. The design forms an 'I'.

3397

Relationship to Illinois

Longtime Illinois resident.



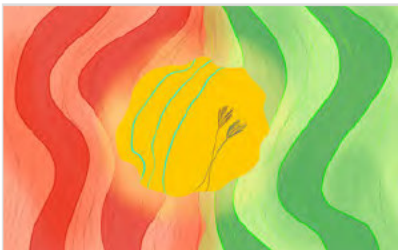
Explain the meaning behind your flag

Symbolism is as previously submitted design, but with bands added, golden as the prairies of Illinois. Also note the subtle "XXI" visible sideways and superimposed, for the 21st state to enter the union.

3398

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois. My mother was born here, and my father's father moved here to seek a better life. I lived here until 18. From 18 to 27, I traveled and explored different states and countries. At 27, I moved back here. I see Illinois as a young and old friend.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind the flag is to capture nature and how it affects Illinois. One wheat is gray and adaptive, yet the wheat behind it is black and definite. The sun radiates blurry, yellow wheat fields and curved blue skies. There's a feeling of safety in long drives in the car. The sun is the center of the people; the people are in harmony with nature. Behind the sun, there are green, red, and wavy colors. The background crosses adaption with certainty. The people move naturally to the light.

3399



Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Chicago for 6 years with my Illinois-native husband, and we return to Illinois with our family nearly every year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the agricultural landscape of Illinois, with special prominence of corn as an important element of the landscape

3400



Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of the state and have resided in Crete for the majority of my life. Additionally, I lived in Chicago for 6 years as well. I attended DePaul University in Lincoln Park for my undergraduate degree. I also travel to Bolingbrook, Schaumburg, and Rosemont for work. Due to character limits in the meaning section, I want to include each specific colors RGB code here. Old Glory Blue: (10,49,97) Gold: (255,203,33) Green: (30,100,4) White: (238,243,247)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 21-pointed star represents our state's admission into the union as the 21st state. Old Glory Blue - I opted for this shade to pay homage to our part in the wider union. It also represents the major rivers that define our borders and Lake Michigan. White - These lines represent our harsh, snowy winters. Gold - The bottom bar represents our summers and the extensive agricultural sector. Green - The top bar represents our forests as well as the wealth our cities produce.

3401



Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Chicago for 6 years with my Illinois-native husband, and we return to Illinois with our family nearly every year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the agricultural landscape of Illinois, with special prominence of corn as an important element of the landscape

3402

Relationship to Illinois

On [REDACTED], I was born in the State of Illinois at Alexian Brothers Hospital in Elk Grove Village. I came into this world not just as an American, but also an Illinoisan. My mother grew up in downstate Illinois outside Springfield, and my father grew up in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago. Together, they raised me in Illinois all the way until I left home for college in 2018. Illinois has always been not just in my mind and heart, but in my own very soul, too. I love Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I had a lot of design ideas flow through my head when designing what to submit. I wanted to incorporate Lincoln, the iconic City of Chicago, downstate Illinois, the various rivers flowing throughout IL, and so much more. But what I ended up settling on were three things: the lush natural beauty of IL (represented by the green background), Lake Michigan (represented in the top right), and IL farms (represented by the four cornstalk stripes on the left).



3403

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here, and I live here; I see Illinois as my home. The nature, neighborhoods, and cities are a part of me. Every part of Illinois feels like home: my childhood. The place I lived until 18. Now, at 27, I live here again.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top left corner of the flag is the sun. The sun radiates courage and hope. The blue banner waving across the center of the flag is symbolic of the rivers and skies. Here, I see Illinois. In the reflection of it, I see the people. Below them, there are never-ending green grasslands and fields. Overall, the flag represents simplicity: a simple desire for peace and hope.



3404



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Wisconsin

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue for the Lake, Yellow for the Urban (particularly along the lake), and Orange for the open rural spaces. A Star, because in America, every flag needs a star. The Colors are at a 22 degree angle, for the 22nd state.

3405



Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Chicago for 6 years with my Illinois-native husband, and we return to Illinois with our family nearly every year.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the agricultural landscape of Illinois, with special prominence of the red barn as a mark on landscape.

3406



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, growing up in the northern part of the state and attending college here as well. My family has lived here since they immigrated from afar, with my own parents dealing with and surviving the hardships of the Plainfield Tornado only to rebuild stronger. I myself have found their struggle empowering and took up the torch from them in trying to build a better world.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the open skies of the state, as well as the many rivers and lakes such as Lake Michigan and the Illinois River. The gold represents the prairies and plains that make up the state, as well as our potential for prosperity and wealth. The white and the star are homages to the previous flags of Illinois, with the white being our current one and the star being the centennial flag. The star represents the people of the state, with stars being associated with Chicago and the Union.



3407

Relationship to Illinois

We call Illinois our home state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There's a white sky and blue lake for a background including the eagle holding the American flag representing freedom. There's the state bird and flower sitting on a branch with the dates on it representing the state of Illinois. The eagle is also carrying more flags representing all the different nationalities calling Illinois their home.



3408

Relationship to Illinois

We call Illinois our home state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There's a white sky and blue lake for a background including the eagle representing freedom. There's the state bird representing the state of Illinois. There's also the sun similar to the one in the current flag.

3409

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois represents my grandmother and grandfather: Chicago, Chicago suburbs, and Polish-Americans. It represents my Oma and Opa: the American soldier and the woman he married. Illinois is my childhood. Long drives to my grandparents' houses: falling asleep in the car. I feel as connected to Illinois as all of its pieces: Springfield to Chicago, Abe Lincoln and great rivers, campgrounds and camping trips. I see myself in the city, the nature, and the people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I made this flag with a group of sixth and seventh graders while I worked as an English teacher in a suburb of Illinois. During that time, the students were working on symbolism. In my own words, the meaning behind the flag is collaboration. There is no part of the flag which is unnecessary. It is interesting, full of different shades and colors. The flag symbolizes the infinite possibilities in the future; the red star symbolizes the unique and powerful people who characterize Illinois.

3410

Relationship to Illinois

I recently visited Illinois for a family celebration, enjoying Chicago and the wide flat plains. I've visited Illinois several times, crossing its width seeing the diversity of its big cities, rich farmland on the prairie and its many rivers.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents Illinois as the Prairie State. The green blades at the bottom represent the prairie grass that once covered the state. The red star represents the great city of Chicago, home to over 70% of Illinoisans. The golden field represents the golden sunsets and the riches of the state's land, cities, and people.

3411

Relationship to Illinois

I recently visited Illinois for a family celebration, enjoying Chicago and the wide flat plains. I've visited Illinois several times, crossing its width seeing the diversity of its big cities, rich farmland on the prairie and its many rivers. Although I've never lived there, I could see myself living there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents Illinois as the Prairie State. The green blades at the bottom represent the big bluestem grass that once covered the state. The red star represents the great city of Chicago, home to over 70% of Illinoisans. The golden field represents the golden sunsets and the riches of the state's land, cities, and people.



3412

Relationship to Illinois

I recently visited Illinois for a family celebration, enjoying Chicago and the wide flat plains. I've visited Illinois several times, crossing its width seeing the diversity of its big cities, rich farmland on the prairie and its many rivers.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents Illinois as the Prairie State. The green blades at the bottom represent the state's official prairie grass (big bluestem) that once covered the state, blowing in the wind. The blue star represents the great city of Chicago, home to over 70% of Illinoisans, with the blue color representing the many waterways of the state and Lake Michigan. The golden field represents the golden sunsets and the riches of the state's land, cities, and people.



3413

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago in 2012, and I've lived in Illinois since then. My two children were born here. I worked for state government for about two and a half years from 2016 to 2019. From 2019 to present, I have been working as an attorney for school districts, community colleges, and other local government clients across the state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue columns represent Lake Michigan and rivers that form Illinois borders. The green stripe is the color of the official prairie grass. With the blue columns, it forms a subtle sideways capital I. White stripes represent potential. The stars represent Illinois as the twenty-first state. The large star reflects how Illinois serves as a hub for innovation and transportation, symbolized by the wheel. The Ferris Wheel is also a famous invention from the 1893 World's Fair.

3414

Relationship to Illinois

As a young man, a special trip to see the architectural masterpieces of Frank Lloyd Wright in Oak Park, Illinois captivated and inspired me to pursue a career in architecture. Decades have passed since then, but my passion for architecture is still strong. I credit my time in Illinois for sparking a career that I love.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A corn tassel on the left side of the flag links the past, present, and future of Illinois. Native Americans cultivated corn in Illinois over 1,000 years ago. Today, corn is Illinois' top commodity, and corn fields cover nearly one-third of the state. White stripes on the right side of the flag converge, representing Illinois as a continental crossroad. The stripes and areas of blue between the stripes add up to twenty-one, representing Illinois' place as the 21st state in the Union.

3415

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. I grew up and currently reside in Crete, IL. I also lived in Chicago for six years and attended DePaul University for my undergraduate degree. I commute to Bolingbrook, Schaumburg, and occasionally Rosemont for work.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star has 21 points and refers to Illinois admission to the union. The shade of blue pays homage to our state's part of the larger union and the rivers that define our state, as well as Lake Michigan. The white border lines represent the snowy and harsh winters. Green represents the lush vegetation and wealth of our cities. Yellow represents the warm summers and agricultural sector. I have included 3 variants for review. This is an additional submission due to an error in my first one.

3416

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. I grew up and currently reside in Crete, IL. I also lived in Chicago for six years and attended DePaul University for my undergraduate degree. I commute to Bolingbrook, Schaumburg, and occasionally Rosemont for work.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star has 21 points and refers to Illinois admission to the union. The shade of blue pays homage to our state's part of the larger union and the rivers that define our state, as well as Lake Michigan. The white border lines represent the snowy and harsh winters. Green represents the lush vegetation and wealth of our cities. Yellow represents the warm summers and agricultural sector. This is an additional variant of the flag with the star centered around a diamond-shaped border.

3417

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here and have spent my whole life living in Illinois. I have visited 32 other states in the US and Illinois is still my favorite. I greatly enjoy the culture, people, cities, history, and progressivism of the state, and there is no other state in the US that I would rather live in.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is divided into two sections. The top right portion is blue to represent Lake Michigan, with a 6 pointed star that represents Chicago, the same one in Chicago's flag. The bottom left portion is green to represent agriculture and nature, with a white tail deer representing the national animal of Illinois. These two portions are meant to portray both the urban and rural parts of Illinois. The diagonal symbol in the middle is based on motifs the Illini Confederation painted on deer hides.

3418

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois and my maternal side of my family is from Jo Daviess and Kankakee county. My father decided to move to Illinois from Brazil after studying as an exchange student in Lincoln, Illinois. I received both my Bachelors and Masters Degree in Architecture at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. I lived in Chicago my whole life until starting University in 2016 and moved down to Champaign, where I lived until 2022.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Illinois Forever": Three Violet flowers, the state flower of Illinois, in the center of the flag represent Northern, Central, and Southern Illinois. They are shown here unified together along the white bar. The top blue bar represents the waters of Lake Michigan while the bottom bar represents the Mississippi, both integral to the economic development of the state throughout its history. The white bar in the center represents fertile farm lands that supports agricultural development.

3419

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and lived in Chicago for 6 years and moved to Henry County and have lived there since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the sky and the rivers/ lakes of our state. The yellow represents prosperity. The white the harmony of the different parts of our state. The 21 pointed star since Illinois is the 21st state. The wreath of wheat for agriculture and the 6 pointed stars for the Chicago area.



3420

Relationship to Illinois

My brother and his family live in Savoy.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I combined a simplified illustration based on the current flag with the blue band and large star from the IL Centennial Flag. Text on the red ribbon (which mimics the Mississippi River contour) is the statehood year, 1818, and reads correctly on both side of the flag.



3421

Relationship to Illinois

My brother and his family live in Savoy.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by my first view of Illinois driving over from Indianapolis, the green is the prairie and open land while the white is the open sky. The large capital I is styled after the initial from the IL 150th Anniversary Flag. Aside from being an I for Illinois, the initial stands like a strong, tall pillar; America is supported by the strength of tall Illinois in the heartland. The blue band (the I) with statehood star is a loose nod to the IL Centennial Flag.



3422

Relationship to Illinois

My grandparents migrated to Illinois in the 1800's and both had farms outside of Chicago. Their farms were close to each other and that is how my parents met. I went to Naperville schools and it was there I had an art teacher, Carolyn Finzer, who inspired me to become a graphic designer. I am now a Design Director at Chicago Public Schools.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag honors our blue skies and all of our waterways including the Mississippi on our west boarder (BLUE). It also honors our nickname The Prairie State since prairies cover most of our state (GREEN). And we cannot forget our crops and sunrises and sunsets (YELLOW). The best flags don't include words so that they are readable from both sides, so I took advantage of the symmetry of the letter "I" for Illinois. There are 21 stars for being the 21st state.

3423

Relationship to Illinois

I've been a resident to the Chicago Suburbs ever since I was born and am being raised here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red, white, and blue color scheme represents our country. The white oak represents not only the state tree but our ability to grow and develop not only as a state but as a society. The circles representing our ability to connect and unite together. The tree also highlights the natural beauty of the state.



3424

Relationship to Illinois

I am related to Illinois by transferring to a school here from Indiana and have resided here for about a year now.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is that our state is independent and different in our own ways. I had chosen the cardinal because of our representation of our state bird, I thought that it was a little broad to have an eagle as it represents our whole country. I had thought that instead of it representing the country we need a flag to represent us; the state of Illinois. I had chosen others from previous flags and our history of Illinois.



3425

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in my hometown Chrisman, Illinois for 13 years now so my whole life. I love this state because every town has the basic needs to live, such as a gas station, grocery store, banks, and etc. I have seen this state's ups and downs. Illinois is perfect and I will never leave this state. There is only one problem and that is that we get no rain really. Other than that, I love this place, and I will never leave this place because it is my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag means freedom and respect because everyone deserves freedom and respect. I also have corn in my flag because Illinois is known for growing corn. I also put a pond because inside of a lot of ponds there are state fish, The Bluegill. There is a crop sprayer that has a flag pulled behind it saying God Bless America. Last but not least you have the Bald eagle sitting on a branch, the bald eagle the state bird that symbolizes strength, courage, freedom, and immortality.





3426

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's a cardinal our state bird, the Sears/Willis Tower in Chicago , corn which grows all over Illinois, and President Lincoln's hat because Illinois is the land of Lincoln.



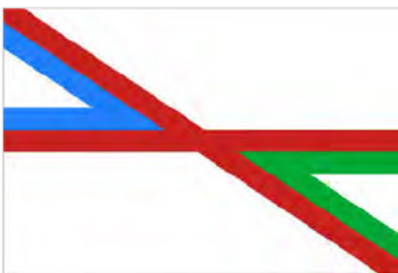
3427

Relationship to Illinois

Lived here all my life and have no plans to move away.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's an "IL" made with the color of wheat as the "I", Illini Orange as the "L", and void space is Illini blue in the upper left to symbolize Lake Michigan.



3428

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for three years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents a stylized crossroads. It represents the people who have traveled through and to Illinois over time by water (blue), land (green), and flight (red). It retains the distinctive white background of the current Illinois flag and the striking red ribbon color.

3429

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria, raised in the town of Washington, and now call Champaign home, where I founded Clanin Creative, an LGBTQ+ owned agency. My journey as an entrepreneur began with invaluable support from the IL Small Business Development Center. I graduated from Illinois State University and my family has called Illinois home since the early 1800s. My brother-in-law is a 6th-generation farmer whose family has been farming here for generations. I am very proud to call our beautiful state home!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design captures Illinois' diversity through its three regions. The top strip (northern) in light blue represents Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The middle (central) green rows symbolize the state's agricultural legacy, while the darker green at the bottom (southern) reflects its forests and state parks. Bold white stars represent each region, their 7 points adding up to 21, honoring Illinois as the 21st state. This modern design is an emblem of unity and pride.

3430

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Peoria, raised in the town of Washington, and now call Champaign home, where I founded Clanin Creative, an LGBTQ+ owned agency. My journey as an entrepreneur began with invaluable support from the IL Small Business Development Center. I graduated from Illinois State University and my family has called Illinois home since the early 1800s. My brother-in-law is a 6th-generation farmer whose family has been farming here for generations. I am very proud to call our beautiful state home!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design celebrates Illinois' stunning landscape and its vital role in agriculture. The 21 rows of crops honor Illinois as the 21st state, while the beautiful blue shade symbolizes our expansive skies and the waters of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. One bold star stands proudly to represent our place in the American flag. It's simple, memorable design makes it instantly recognizable, a symbol of Illinois' heritage.

3431



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Springfield, IL and have lived my entire life in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The thirteen stars on the blue sky represent the original thirteen colonies. The brown on the bottom one third represents the rich soil of Illinois. The Cardinal carries three violet flowers representing the three capitals Illinois has had.

3432



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - These are my entries. I am a senior Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The common theme is to use the IL, the recognized State identification and the State bird, the Cardinal. All white areas should be true white with the red and blue the same color as the US flag.

3433



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - These are my entries. I am a senior Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The common theme is to use the IL, the recognized State identification and the State bird, the Cardinal. All white areas should be true white with the red and blue the same color as the US flag. In addition, this scheme shows 21 stars since we were the 21st State admitted to the Union.

3434



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - These are my entries. I am a senior Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The common theme is to use the IL, the recognized State identification and the State bird, the Cardinal. All white areas should be true white with the red and blue the same color as the US flag. In addition, this scheme shows the State geographical map overlaid with a profile of Abraham Lincoln, "The Land of Lincoln."

3435



Relationship to Illinois

Illinois resident since 1969.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white hoist represents the unity of the people of Illinois. The seal proclaims sovereignty and unity, and is one of the most historically significant seals in the nation. The top band is sky-blue recognizing Illinois as a global leader in air transportation. The middle band of cornsilk gold illustrates the wealth of agriculture of the State. The lower band of navy blue celebrates the home of the nation's greatest leaders: Barack Obama, Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses Grant.

3436

Relationship to Illinois

Jena Marble is a proud Illinois native. Born in Rantoul, she attended Illinois State University in Bloomington, then moved to Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood. After a brief stint in the Southwest, she and her husband moved to Champaign, where they now reside with their two kids. She works as a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois. She loves Illinois and appreciates the proximity to large cities, the changing seasons, and the strong sense of community that surrounds her.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag symbolizes the rich heritage and diverse identity of Illinois. The 12-pointed star (a reference from the current flag) represents unity, resilience, and the state's commitment to agriculture, innovation, and community. The vertical stripes reflect the balance between natural beauty and industrial strength, while the colors honor the state's agricultural roots, industrial legacy, and connection to its waterways and open skies. Please see more detail here: <https://tinyurl.com/marble-flag>

3437

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by Liam, on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew a cardinal surrounded by what the eagle from our old flag had in its mouth. I did what the eagle had in its mouth so we could remember our old flag. I did the cardinal in the center because the cardinal is our state bird. I did what the eagle had in its mouth circularly because I thought it looked best like that. I added Illinois to the flag so people know our state name.

3438

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Danville, IL, where I led a most typical Midwestern and Illinois youth. I attended the University of Illinois at Springfield obtaining a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration. Though I moved to Texas in 2007 to begin my career in city management, I still return home several times a year to visit family and friends, eat a horseshoe and a beef -dipped with hot giardiniera.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My entries are heavily inspired by Wallace Rice's "Centennial Flag" (which, in my opinion the Commission should select). I consider this a "base" design for my two additional entries. The flag is set on a 2:3 ratio as a nod to French influence. The blue triangular formation at the hoist joining the blue bar running through the field of the flag represents the convergence of the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. The 21 stars obviously representing Illinois place as the 21st state.

3439

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Danville, IL, where I led a most typical Midwestern and Illinois youth. I attended the University of Illinois at Springfield obtaining a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration. Though I moved to Texas in 2007 to begin my career in city management, I still return home several times a year to visit family and friends, eat a horseshoe and a beef -dipped with hot giardiniera.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My second entry, also inspired by Wallace Rice's Centennial Design, is also set on a 2:3 ratio as a not to French influence. The triangular formation and bar of blue representing the convergence of the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. The 21 stars representing Illinois' status as the 21st State * though the larger star representing Illinois is colored in vermilion as an homage to my home county. The vermilion star is angled at 40 deg. which is the general latitude of the state.

3440

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Danville, IL, where I led a most typical Midwestern and Illinois youth. I attended the University of Illinois at Springfield obtaining a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration. Though I moved to Texas in 2007 to begin my career in city management, I still return home several times a year to visit family and friends, eat a horseshoe and a beef -dipped with hot giardiniera.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My third entry, also inspired by Wallace Rice's Centennial Design, is also set on a 2:3 ratio as a nod to French influence. The triangular field of stars are in French blue (another nod to the French) together with the the bar of navy blue representing the convergence of the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. The 21 stars representing Illinois' status as the 21st State * though the larger star representing Illinois appears in the color of vermillion as an homage to my home county.

3441

Relationship to Illinois

As a proud Illinoisan, I take pleasure in experiencing and contributing to the state's vibrant cultural life. As an architectural designer, I partner with communities from the shores of Lake Michigan to the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers at the state's southernmost tip to envision a more inclusive, interactive, and joyful built environment. As an architecture professor at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, I also seek to inspire future generations of creative citizens.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag abstracts the state of Illinois's geography, agrarian heartland, and urban life. A blue triangle represents Lake Michigan perched at the state's northeast shoulder, while a vertical blue stripe represents the mighty Mississippi River along the state's western border. The center graphic offers a new star for Illinois as it blends Chicago's iconic six-pointed star with the kernels of the state's agricultural heart.

3442

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the state of Illinois. I have a family that came to Illinois. I currently live in Illinois. There are many places I want to visit in Illinois that I haven't been able to go to. Illinois is the only state in the United States where I have lived in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design element is having the violet color to be in the background, because it will represent the Illinois state flower which is a violet. My second design would be to use stars, I chose to use stars so it can represent the number of 17 U.S. representatives. My third and fourth elements involve two monarch butterflies. One, to represent the Illinois state insect and second is to represent the two U.S. senators. Fifth element is the white oak tree, which is the Illinois state's tree.



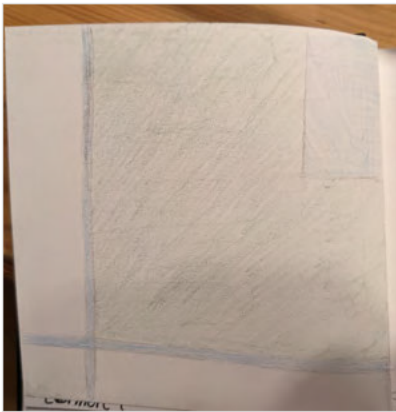
3443

Relationship to Illinois

As her parent, I am a resident of Urbana, Illinois and am employed in Urbana, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In this flag design, the two blue lines symbolize the Ohio and the Illinois rivers that frame our state. Similarly, the blue square at the top represents Lake Michigan. Lastly, the green in the center symbolizes Illinois and depicts the prairies, grasslands and Natural areas that Illinois is best known for.



3444

Relationship to Illinois

Life long citizen. Currently a tour guide in the Capitol.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stripes honor our republic. The name identifies our state. The stars represent the 6 periods/events that changed our history: creation of the Cahokia settlement, 800BC; exploration of Marquette & Joliet, 1673; founding of Kaskaskia and Chicago 1703; American occupation 1778; statehood, 1818; opening of the I&M Canal, 1848. The points of the 3 stars in the upper bar sum to 18. Together the 18 points of stars in the lower bar is a hidden reference to the year of our statehood, 1818.





3445

Relationship to Illinois

Neve was born here in Chicago in 2017 and is a student in Chicago Public Schools.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two green stars for Illinois' beautiful land and beautiful wildlife. A bright orange/pink band to show humans living in Illinois, side-by-side working together.



3446

Relationship to Illinois

The relationship I have with Illinois is that I was born and raise here all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of this flag is the yellow stands for the cornfields, the white stands for peace, the blue circle stands for stability, the deer stands for the national animal, the 21 stars stand for Illinois being the 21st state.



3447

Relationship to Illinois

Neve was born here in Chicago in 2017 and is a student at Chicago Public Schools.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

4 blue circles for the great waterways of Illinois (Lake Michigan, the Mississippi, the Ohio/Wabash, the Illinois). Yellow diagonal bands for optimism. An orange star with a dark outline to represent Illinois, with optional letters I.L. above for the state abbreviation.

3448

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois boy from an Illinois family. My parents represent the duality of the state-he's a city kid, born and raised in Chicago. She is a farmer's daughter, raised on horseback and tractor trailers. My mother's farm, on which she (and later I) grew up, has been in our family for over a hundred years. Our family is a small part of the history of Illinois, and I hope my flag can be part of its future.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue on the left is the same blue as on the flag of Chicago and represents our strong urban centers. The green on the right is meant to evoke the prairie, a nod to our state's original flora and natural beauty. The twenty-one stars on the left signify Illinois' place as the twenty first state in the union. The Mississippi flows down the center of the flag, as it flows down the state itself. Finally, the cornstalk on the right is a reminder of our agricultural past and future.

3449

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois boy from an Illinois family. My parents represent the duality of the state-he's a city kid, born and raised in Chicago. She is a farmer's daughter, raised on horseback and tractor trailers. My mother's farm, on which she (and later I) grew up, has been in our family for over a hundred years. Our family is a small part of the history of Illinois, and I hope my flag can be part of its future.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The deep blue on the left symbolizes Illinois' many important waterways. The white is meant to evoke the city of Chicago, as white dominates Chicago's flag. The green on the right represents the prairie, a nod to our state's original flora and natural beauty. The twenty-one stars on the left signify Illinois' place as the twenty first state in the union. The Mississippi flows down the center of the flag. Finally, the cornstalk on the right represents the importance of agriculture to our state.

3450

Relationship to Illinois

I am John Hartman. Born in Alton and grew up in Edwardsville. Attended classes at Illinois State University and the University of Illinois. Moved away then back to Edwardsville. Ran for Congress from IL-13 as an Independent in 2012. For 25 years, I have owned and managed a tall grass prairie restoration near Edwardsville. I live in New York City.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The state flower design is not a bouquet, this is what they really look like* in flag language. Nature has done the shaping and arranging. Simple beauty in nature is more than enough for intellectual sophistication, it's part of the universe, both common and inexhaustible. The design prizes the richness under our feet. We can get away with so many shapes precisely because violets are just too familiar and gentle to be taxing. People may hang it from their porch just because they like it.

3451

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois boy from an Illinois family. My parents represent the duality of the state-he's a city kid, born and raised in Chicago. She is a farmer's daughter, raised on horseback and tractor trailers. My mother's farm, on which she (and later I) grew up, has been in our family for over a hundred years. Our family is a small part of the history of Illinois, and I hope my flag can be part of its future.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue on the left is the same blue as is on the flag of Chicago. The deep blue of the Mississippi that flows down the center of the flag stands for Illinois' many important waterways. The green on the right represents the prairie, a nod to our state's original flora and natural beauty. The twenty-one stars on the left signify Illinois' place as the twenty first state in the union. Finally, the cornstalk on the right is a reminder of the importance of agriculture to our state.

3452

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Norridge



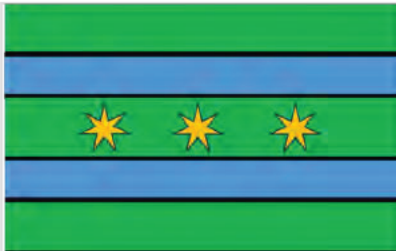
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The centerpiece is the Sears Tower as our famous landmark. On the tower is the ribbon from the previous flag. It is kept in this new flag as national unity is important to the U.S., as well as holding on to history. For a similar reason, the same sun is used, with the shape of Illinois inside. The left side is the urban portion of Illinois, and the right is the rural portion of Illinois. They are both important pieces to the state, as though the city is more known, there is more rural land.

3453

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since the age of 6. I currently reside in Oak Park where I raise my family. I am a proud alumni from the University of Illinois engineering program. I enjoy the history, culture, and vastness of Illinois has to offer. I am an outdoor enthusiast and have traveled throughout the state to visit many of the state parks, natural wonders, and local/regional culture. We have great memories with our friends and family and look forward to the adventures yet to come.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green field represents the vastness of the prairie separated into three areas for northern, central, and southern regions of the state. Blue lines represent Lake Michigan & the waterways that allowed Illinois to grow in trade and infrastructure. Black lines represent railroads & highways as important transportation routes. Three yellow seven pointed stars represent Illinois as the 21st state and for agriculture & prosperity. Overall horizontal emphasis for the flatness of the prairie.

3454



Relationship to Illinois

I am a teacher in Glencoe, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On my flag I have a cardinal because it is the state bird. The cardinal is holding a sign that says 1818. 21st state because 1818 was when Illinois was founded and 21st state because Illinois was the 21st state. Then you have some of the food you might find in Illinois and then the Willis Tower. That is my flag.

3455



Relationship to Illinois

My name is Thomas and I'm 12 years old and a few weeks ago I visited the Land of Lincoln and saw the Lincoln Presidential Museum. It was genuinely one of the best trips I have ever taken. As a little, little child, I was fascinated by Abraham Lincoln, and was thrilled when it was announced that there would be a flag redesign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eagle represents liberty, the sun represents freedom, and the outline on the right represents Illinois.

3456



Relationship to Illinois

I am a graphic arts teacher in Illinois and these are my student's submissions for the flag redesign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents tranquility and peace among the public. The red line under it represents bloodshed for not only the state but for peace. The white represents purity and abundance of religions. All these colors together are also featured in the Chicago flag. The green silhouette of the white oak represents agriculture. The black x and triangle at the bottom represents the indigenous roots of every state in America, as it was their land first so it's important that it's recognized.

3457

Relationship to Illinois



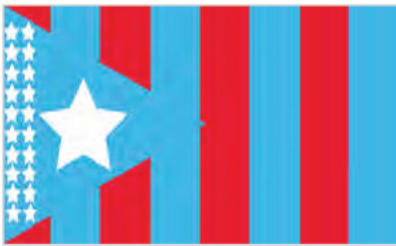
I am a graphic arts teacher in Illinois and these are my student's submissions for the flag redesign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents multiple statements from Illinois, including the stars of Chicago, the State white oak tree of Illinois, and 21 Stars for being the 21st state. The white oak tree is Illinois's state tree. I felt like that would be a good representation to add to the flag because Illinois has a lot of land and agriculture, which is why my flag's background is green.

3458

Relationship to Illinois



I am a graphic arts teacher in Illinois and these are my student's submissions for the flag redesign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue is meant to represent the rivers in Illinois. The red represents important things in Illinois and the white is just kinda there. I also put 21 stars on the flag to represent Illinois being the 21st state. I put them in a triangle on the flag and then made stripes across the flag.

3459

Relationship to Illinois



Illinois is my home state. It is where my family settled down when we first moved to this country in 2000. I moved out of state for college in 2012, but am now back, attending the UIUC for medical school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is an adaptation of some of the elements in the current Illinois state flag. Superimposing the rising sun onto the shield. I would like to have a sun more similar to the one found on the current state flag; I am not too proud, however, to say that I am unable to recreate said sun.

3460

Relationship to Illinois

I am a graphic arts teacher in Illinois and these are my student's submissions for the flag redesign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I did corn as the flag because it is corn also for the memes. I would also be happy if you picked my state flag design. I did corn because it's one of our number one exports for Illinois. I added the northern cardinal because it is one of the state symbols. I also did the northern cardinal because it is the most popular state symbol.



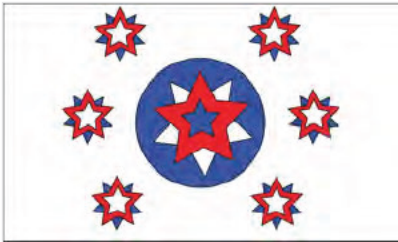
3461

Relationship to Illinois

I am a graphic arts teacher in Illinois and these are my student's submissions for the flag redesign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I will try to make my flag as simple as possible so a child can draw it. Have the white, Blue, and red colors in it. Will shape like a star in a ball. And some stars around it and the theres 21 stars which means IL in the 21st state in the USA and red mean Justice, White mean Freedom, and blue means Historic.



3462

Relationship to Illinois

I am a fifth generation Illinois resident who has been apart of all aspects of Illinois; urban, suburban, and rural. Illinois has given me many more opportunities than other places ever could have. I currently attend a public Illinois University where I have learned about art and have grown my creativity to show my Illinois pride. Without this state I would have never come as far as I have to get to this point of art making and appreciation.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my flag I decided to create something easily identifiable as Illinois. I chose the symbols: Abraham Lincoln, as well as the iconic shape of our state. I also added twenty-one stars to symbolize Illinois as the 21st state in the United States. The word Illinois is in 'Plantagenet Cherokee' to represent the Cherokee Indians that traveled here during the Trail of Tears. The colors are 'Old Glory Red,' 'Old Glory Blue,' and black. I also included 1818 as the year Illinois became a state.

3463

Relationship to Illinois

Father

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to honor the state which is so many things. But I chose the penny because of the significance to our state. Also, I chose the state flower (the violet)!



3464

Relationship to Illinois

My family settled in Illinois after we immigrated to the United States in 2000. It is where I grew up and the place I still call home. I went out of state for college in 2012, but have since returned and am attending medical school at UIUC.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 5 stripes have dual meaning. First, they represent the 5 great tribes of the Illinois Confederation; an attempt to recognize the indigenous people of the land. Second, the three blue stripes represent major waters important for the development of the state (Lake Michigan, Illinois River, Mississippi River) while the two golden stripes are a nod to the nickname "Prairie State" as well as the vast amount of farmland. There is a single star in the middle for the unity of everyone in the state.

3465

Relationship to Illinois

I am a fifth generation Illinois resident who has been apart of all aspects of Illinois; urban, suburban, and rural. Illinois has given me many more opportunities than other places ever could have. I currently attend a public Illinois University where I have learned about art and have grown my creativity to show my Illinois pride. Without this state I would have never come as far as I have to get to this point of art making and appreciation.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my flag I decided to create something easily identifiable as Illinois. I chose the symbols: Abraham Lincoln, as well as the iconic shape of our state. I also added twenty-one stars to symbolize Illinois as the 21st state in the United States. The word Illinois is in 'Plantagenet Cherokee' to represent the Cherokee Indians that traveled here during the Trail of Tears. The colors are 'Old Glory Red,' 'Old Glory Blue,' and black. I also included 1818 as the year Illinois became a state.

3466

Relationship to Illinois

My family settled in Illinois after we immigrated to the United States in 2000. It is where I grew up and the place I still call home. I went out of state for college in 2012, but have since returned and am attending medical school at UIUC.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A clear callback to the centennial flag designed by Wallace Rice. I felt it appropriate to include four additional stripes, for a total of 5, to represent the 5 great tribes of the Illinois Confederation. The blue stripes also stand for three major waters of the state (Lake Michigan, Illinois & Mississippi Rivers). The gold stripes are a nod to the nickname of "Prairie State" as well as representing the vast amount of farmland in the state.



3467

Relationship to Illinois

I work for a creative agency that supports the Illinois Office of Tourism.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design visually honors Illinois' official state bird, the northern cardinal. As a year-round resident, the cardinal embodies the enduring bond between the people of Illinois and their land. The vertical blue wavy bars represent the state's borders with major waterways, including the Mississippi River, the Ohio River and Lake Michigan. A subtle "I" shape is integrated at the center, symbolizing the Illinois name.



3468

Relationship to Illinois

Hey, I'm Jordan Grimes! My relationship to IL is a lifelong one as I've lived in the western suburbs of Chicago since day one. This state offers the full effect of four seasons and that's what keeps me here -besides my family. There is a diversity of land and people that cannot be matched. Illinois is a proud place I call home. Thank you for the time, effort, and consideration put into this flag. My process is visual so for more images and story please visit my website: [\[REDACTED\]](#)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Name: On Point This flag features a unique star formation where the sum of its points equal 21 which is a nod to IL as the 21st state. To achieve that star point total there are three 5-point stars and a single 6-point star (Chicago). This star location mirrors the location of Chicago within IL. The violet color stems from the IL state flower, common blue violet. This single color allows IL to unify and rally as one. The field is three vertical bands to represent urban, suburban, and rural areas

3469

Relationship to Illinois

Hey, I'm Jordan Grimes! My relationship to IL is a lifelong one as I've lived in the western suburbs of Chicago since day one. This state offers the full effect of four seasons and that's what keeps me here -besides my family. There is a diversity of land and people that cannot be matched. Illinois is a proud place I call home. Thank you for the time, effort, and consideration put into this flag. My process is visual so for more images and story please visit my website: [\[REDACTED\]](#)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Name: Middle of Everything (MOE) This dynamic flag features two overlapping triangles which creates a central diamond section. Inspiration for this includes floor detail in the state capitol, Peoria Tribe of Indians of Ok. logo, and the Enjoy Illinois tagline "the middle of everything". The center has a 5-point star to represent IL. Orange, yellow, and navy blue are all inspired by our indigenous roots and current IL flag elements. Six surrounding shapes represent the neighboring states to IL.

3470



Relationship to Illinois

I work for a creative agency that supports the Illinois Office of Tourism.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design combines iconic features of the American flag on the left with symbols of Illinois farmlands and prairies on the right. These elements unite to create a modern shield, embodying the state's strength and leadership. A subtle "I" shape is integrated at the center, symbolizing the Illinois name.

3471



Relationship to Illinois

I work for a creative agency that supports the Illinois Office of Tourism.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design combines iconic features of the American flag on the left with symbols of Illinois farmlands and prairies on the right. These elements unite to create a modern shield, embodying the state's strength and leadership. A subtle "I" shape is integrated at the center, symbolizing the Illinois name.

3472



Relationship to Illinois

Hey, I'm Jordan Grimes! My relationship to IL is a lifelong one as I've lived in the western suburbs of Chicago since day one. This state offers the full effect of four seasons and that's what keeps me here -besides my family. There is a diversity of land and people that cannot be matched. Illinois is a proud place I call home. Thank you for the time, effort, and consideration put into this flag. My process is visual so for more images and story please visit my website: [\[REDACTED\]](#)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Name: Landscape This flag is an energetic snapshot of Illinois' beautiful landscape. Rays of sunshine meet rows of agriculture on the prairie state horizon. The serene and radiating sunrise mirrors the sun from the IL state capitol dome stained glass. In its rich history Illinois is known as the "Land of Lincoln" and home to Barack Obama which also influences the green rows. In the top-left area (canton) of this flag features a single royal blue 5-point star for Illinois.

3473

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident my entire life. I love the nature, weather, and people that you experience across the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The primary element of the flag uses stars and shapes to depict the state insect * a monarch butterfly. The orange shapes fading to the horizon evoke fields of crops along a road and tall skyscrapers from above. Twelve points across three stars encodes the date Illinois joined the union (December 3rd), while 1818 is hidden in the four groups of color, reading left to right. The blue stripe represents Illinois' western border, the Mississippi River. The white field honors Illinois' current flag.



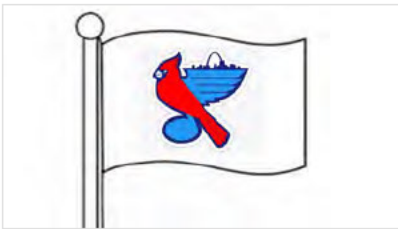
3474

Relationship to Illinois

I've been to Illinois dozens of times.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I think it speaks for itself.



3475

Relationship to Illinois

Lifetime resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's symbolism is beyond 500 characters. Designed to be as diverse and ever evolving as our great state. For some, the 3 interlocking circles may represent the northern, central and southern arts of our state being vastly different, yet just as 3 gears turning in unison, they work together in all things, forming a strength that enriches the world. The sun overlapped with native prairie grass and crops that make all things. Blue water, red is blood, white gear parts are for inclusion.



3476

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston and raised in Lincolnshire. I spent the first 22 years of my life living in Lake County, going to public school, and working as an employee for the villages of Lincolnshire and Hawthorn Woods. Growing up, I also had the opportunity to travel the state outside Chicagoland, from Galena to Peoria to Springfield. While I moved out of state for graduate school, Illinois will always be my home and I regularly visit friends and family there. I am proud to be an Illinoisan.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the forests of the Shawnee National Forest and our magnificent state parks. The yellow represents the corn and wheat fields that are a vital part of our state's economy. The blue represents the open sky above the plains. The white-tailed deer is placed in the center, leaping toward a brighter future, surrounded by a circle of 21 stars representing Illinois's place as the 21st state. Illinois's state star is highlighted in yellow at the top.

3477

Relationship to Illinois

The flag design concept is being submitted on behalf of my daughter [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was born in [REDACTED] and is a 4th grader at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago. Ananya is proud of her home state and loves all it has to offer. She has traveled to many places across the world and Chicago is her favorite city in the world.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents many things that make Illinois special & unique. It's home to the white-tailed deer and the northern cardinal, the state animal and bird. Illinois is known for its corn and wheat represents a strong state, rooted in agriculture. The deer gazes upon the Chicago skyline, which represents the amazing progress and contributions that this great state has made to our country and the modern world. It also represents home for Ananya.

3478

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston and raised in Lincolnshire. I spent the first 22 years of my life living in Lake County, going to public school, and working as an employee for the villages of Lincolnshire and Hawthorn Woods. Growing up, I also had the opportunity to travel the state outside Chicagoland, from Galena to Peoria to Springfield. While I moved out of state for graduate school, Illinois will always be my home and I regularly visit friends and family there. I am proud to be an Illinoisan.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue quadrants represent Illinois's four water borders, the Mississippi River, the Ohio River, the Wabash River, and Lake Michigan, reflecting the importance of these waterways to Illinois's history, present, and future. The white-tailed deer is placed in the center, leaping toward a brighter future, surrounded by a circle of 21 stars representing Illinois's place as the 21st state, ardently and harmoniously joining the union.

3479

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston and raised in Lincolnshire. I spent the first 22 years of my life living in Lake County, going to public school, and working as an employee for the villages of Lincolnshire and Hawthorn Woods. Growing up, I also had the opportunity to travel the state outside Chicagoland, from Galena to Peoria to Springfield. While I moved out of state for graduate school, Illinois will always be my home and I regularly visit friends and family there. I am proud to be an Illinoisan.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the forests of the Shawnee National Forest and our magnificent state parks. The yellow represents the corn and wheat fields that are a vital part of our state's economy. The blue represents the state's waterways including the Illinois River, the Mississippi River, the Ohio River, the Wabash River, and Lake Michigan. Towards the hoist lies a circle of 21 stars representing Illinois's place as the 21st state, ardently and harmoniously joining the union.

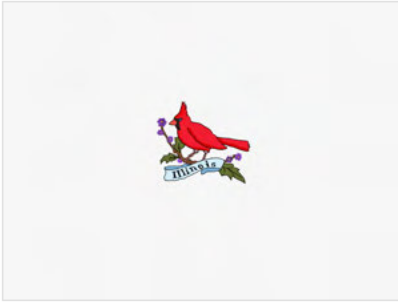
3480

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Gwen and I was born in Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 12 years and I love my home and where I live.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is what makes Illinois beautiful, but in away that people might not know. Because everyone knows about Chicago and Springfield. But a lot of people don't know about the more scenic part of Illinois. The cardinal is our state bird but it also represents the fire in Illinoisans hearts. The flowers represent all the forest and diversity of Illinois. Finally the blue ribbon represents all the rivers and lakes we have. This shows what Illinois means to me.



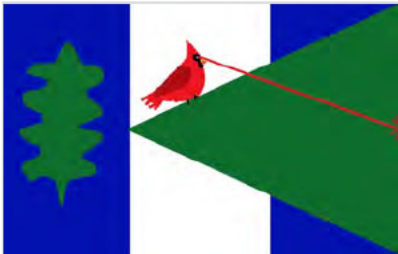
3481

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the western suburbs of Chicago (Villa Park) and attended college at the University of Illinois. I cherish returning to the beautiful state of Illinois, and will always consider it home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I was inspired by the Illinois state song. The three blue sections are the "rivers gently flowing" and symbolize the Illinois, Mississippi, and Ohio rivers which ring our great state. The green triangle symbolizes the "prairies verdant growing." Additionally, there is an outline of the leaf of the white oak (the state tree) and a cardinal (the state bird). About the laser: is Illinois brave enough to make a bold choice (unlike New Zealand with its laser kiwi or Minnesota with its laser loon)?



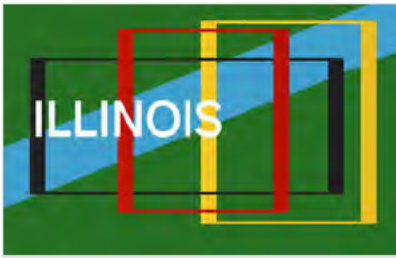
3482

Relationship to Illinois

Lifetime resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A bright, simple design showing green for farmland, parks, protected lands, original prairie grasses and other wildlife. Blue water flows through. Black (history, coal, skyscrapers, etc), red (blood which was lost protecting, etc.) and yellow (Sunshine, love, etc.) interlocks all, which shows diversity, yet togetherness and is complimentary to the design. The white "Illinois" is left without color for contrast and represents the future growth of our state and inclusion.



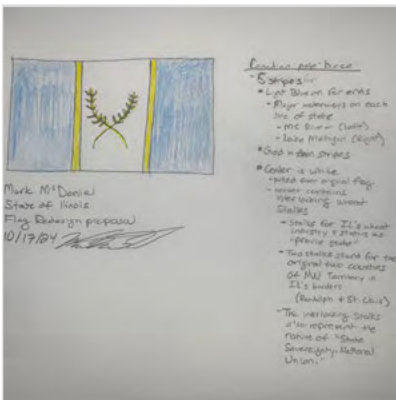
3483

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois for work and have lived here for a number of years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag highlights Illinois' natural features and its status as "The Prairie State." The flag has a "Canadian pale" base. The left and right sections are light blue for the major waterways on the State's borders (Mississippi River and Lake Michigan). The center section is white from the original flag. Between them are two gold stripes for the prairies. In the white section are two interlocking golden wheat stalks. The stalks represent Illinois' original two counties: St. Clair and Randolph.



3484

Relationship to Illinois

I can see it from the Arch

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two things that every Illinoisian wishes they had



3485



Relationship to Illinois

Foundationally, Illinois is a beautiful state with a rich history. However, it also stands as a state deeply divided. Both between Rural and City as well as Politically. As a citizen of the St. Louis Metropolitan area that constantly jumps the borders, I am well aware of the "Chicago vs Rural Illinois" split that somewhat defines a corner of the state's identity. Thus, the goal to design a new flag is fraught by displaying these divisions, but also what unites us in spite of them.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Railroads are not only a great representation of Illinois' community interconnection, but Illinois is also the center of the nation's network and boasts a gold standard. Ranchers and Farmers, as well as Urban and Suburban Workers are well accustomed and connected by their need, use, and love for this uniting system. This flag displays a split byzantine, our divided community, enveloped by a set of tracks on a farm-green background. These tracks are standins for institutions that connect us all.

3486



Relationship to Illinois

Lifetime resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois. The proud "Land of Lincoln". Lincoln's silhouette is in the middle, which represents the central part and state capitol, Springfield, the rich soil and natural resources. He looks towards the future of the direction our state is going and has a look of strength and confidence. Blue represents the blessing of abundant waterways in our state and the Northern part. Green represents the abundant farmland, preserved lands and green energy. Red, the blood that has paid for it all.

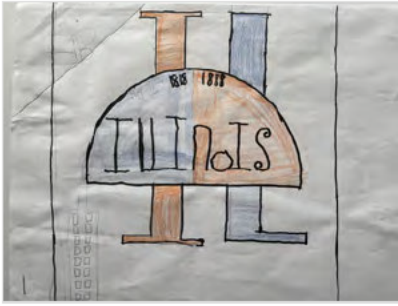
3487

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by Kyliyah, on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -What I did first was I drew a half circle for the frame. Then, I wrote Illinois in the middle of the half circle. Next, I wrote IL down the middle. I also wrote the two very important dates for the state of Illinois. Last, I drew over the pencil line with a sharpie and colored everything blue and orange colored pencils. I didn't want to do something simple so I decided to do something different. I decided to put orange and blue from the baseball team the cubs.



3488

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life, as has most of my family. I was born in Cook County and grew up in Macomb. I've earned a bachelor's degree at Western Illinois University, and my time in "forgottonia" has deeply informed my love of all of Illinois, its history, and its institutions. I now live in Chicago and currently work for the state- I believe in giving back to the state that has shaped me. I believe in the possibilities of our state and intend to live here for my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This theme I call the "sunburst" theme. This is inspired by the sunburst in the current Illinois flag, and represents the sun rising over Illinois, over lake Michigan, and over the flat landscape of the prairie. This can represent the dawn of perpetual opportunity that IL offers. The 6-sided star represents Chicago as IL's largest city in a nod to the Chicago flag and the 6 points represent the 6 constitutional conventions that IL has had which culminated in our current constitution.



3489



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by Larrin, on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew a cardinal in the center of my flag because it is the state bird. I drew wheat around the cardinal to represent our corn fields and the wilderness in Illinois. I wrote the state name, Illinois, on the flag so people could identify who's flag it was.

3490



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by Makenzie, on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag was inspired by our state insect and our state flower. 12/3/1818 was when Illinois was discovered. And that's why it's an important date.

3491



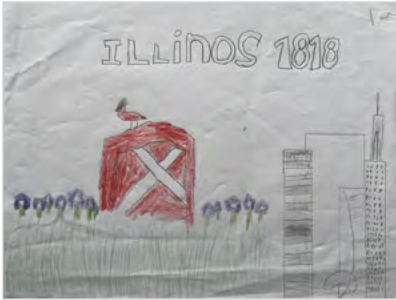
Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life. I was born in Cook County, I grew up in rural Illinois in Macomb Illinois, and I now live in Chicago. I graduated from Western Illinois University and now work for state government. I believe in the possibilities of this state and intend to live here my whole life. My time in both rural "forgottonia" and urban Chicago has given me a deep love of all characteristics of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This theme is a variation on the IL Centennial design. The orange representing the prairie and the agriculture in Illinois, the dark blue represents Lake Michigan and the great rivers of Illinois, such as the Mississippi, and the light blue represents the vast open sky in Illinois. The white bars represent the parallel lines of train tracks which have forged Illinois into the nation's largest rail hub, and can represent urban and rural portions of Illinois.

3492



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by Melvin, on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The city stands for the city of Chicago. The flowers stand for the state flower. The bird is the state bird, the cardinal. The barn represents all the farms in Illinois. The grass represents the prairie. I use the red for the cardinal and the barn, green for the prairie and purple for the state flower.

3493



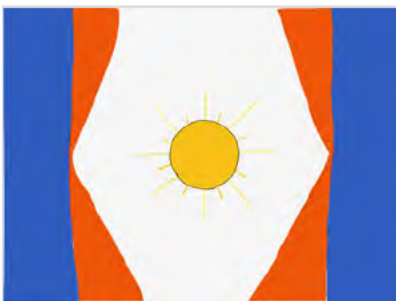
Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cardinal represents the state and its beauty. The bird is carrying an American flag representing the freedom of this country and nation. The green background illustrates the flat grasslands of Illinois while the blue and beautiful lake in the distance.

3494



Relationship to Illinois

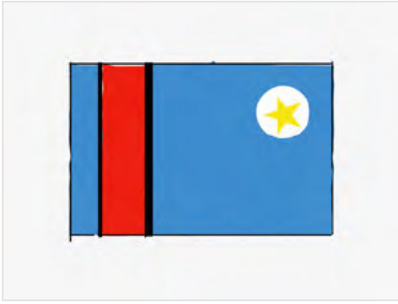
I have lived in Illinois for nine years. All my memories were from Illinois. I go to school in Illinois. I think it would be very cool to have my flag represent Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my flag, the colors portray happiness, wisdom, and optimism. The sun in the flag symbolizes a great future for Illinois. (Just like in the old flag) I think this flag is simple, but not too simple, and I hope you like it.

3495

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Chicago and moved 1 or 2 times in Chicago. After I turned 1 my family moved to Dallas, Texas. I lived there for 7 years. Then my family moved to Houston, Texas and lived there for 3 years and then moved back. Now I am living in Chicago, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue shows that we are lucky to have Lake Michigan. The white shows that we have fall and winter colds unlike other states. The yellow shows that we have lots of freedom. Finally red shows that we have the strength to take on anything and I am familiar with the five flag designing principles: good flag and bad flag.

3496

Relationship to Illinois



My family has lived in Illinois for generations. Most went to the University of Illinois at Urbana. I was born in downtown Chicago in 2013. Later, in 2015, I moved to Wilmette, IL. I have a very strong connection with people here. During the Holocaust, my maternal great grandparents settled in Chicago. My father's maternal great grandma was born in Chicago around 1890. Also her husband moved here around 1900. My father's paternal great grandmother came here from Belarus at the age of 12 in 1910.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

At Highcrest middle school we talked about good flag design and we learned how to make and design good flags. The meaning of my flag is the big happy community that lives around you, that is what the orange on the sides means. The big star stands for the big city of Chicago that so many people live in. The smaller star represents all of the smaller suburbs in IL. The blue on my flag represents Lake Michigan. Lastly the shield shows the safety and kindness of the communities that live here in IL.

3497

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, where I still live. Growing up near Chicago fostered my deep love for the city, with its stunning skyline, architecture, and diverse neighborhoods and food. I believe Chicago is one of the greatest cities in the country. Additionally, I appreciate the state's vast farmland and natural landscapes. Traveling across Illinois, camping, and visiting forest preserves and farms has allowed me to connect with the rich diversity of this wonderful state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Five colors: white, old glory red, old glory blue, chrome yellow, and daisy bush. White retains elements of the current state flag and denotes new beginnings and peace. Old glory colors give the flag a timeless look. The blue representing Lake Michigan and IL rivers. The blue violet flower symbolizes the state's beauty. Surrounded by 18 stars representing Illinois' statehood, added by three stars in the corner denoting its status as the 21st state, the star points totaling 102 for the counties.



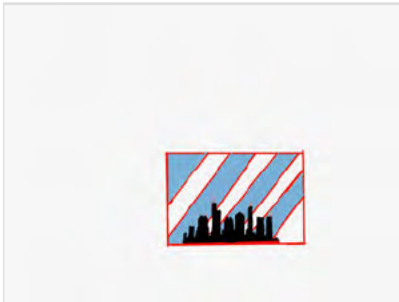
3498

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here for 12 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stripes represent how many presidents have lived here. The buildings represent the city skyline of Chicago which is the biggest city in Illinois.



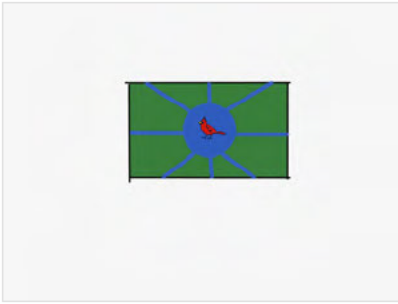
3499

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois from New York when I was young and I love it. It is so peaceful and everybody is so kind. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I learned about Illinois in 6th grade integrated global studies class. I have lived in Illinois for 6 years. I love the culture and I am very proud to live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag showcases the state bird, the Northern Cardinal. The ring around the cardinal represents Lake Michigan and the blue lines symbolizes the many rivers flowing throughout the state. The green background portrays the prosperous and rich soil that coats the land. I am familiar with the five flag design principles from good flag bad flag. I have practiced designing flags in school many times.



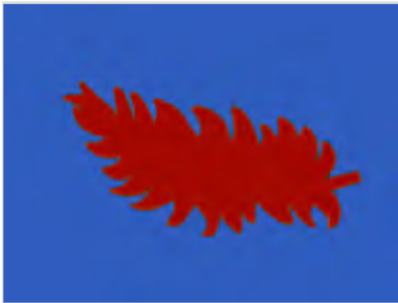
3500

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here my entire life, and I go to school here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The feather represents our state bird: the cardinal. And the blue represents our people.



3501

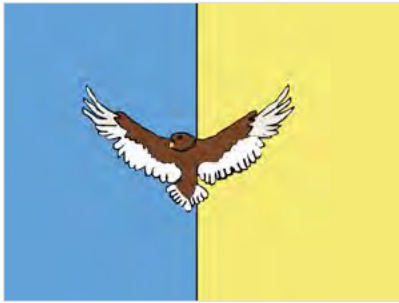
Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois. I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I am very proud to live in Illinois. In my integrated Global studies class at Highcrest Middle School. We watched a Ted talk about good flag design. So I am very familiar with the Five Flag Design Principles from Good flag Bad flag. The green represents the nice parks and forest preserves in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stands for Lake Michigan. The yellow represents the sun and freedom because Illinois was one of the first states to be anti slavery. The hat represents Abraham Lincoln and the feather represents the eagle. The green represents the nice parks and forest preserves in Illinois.





3502

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in illinois for seven years i live in wilmette and i go to school in wilmette.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is yellow and blue and in the middle there is an eagle representing the eagle on the olds flag and the yellow and blue mean the sky and the sun but the blue can also mean water and snow and the yellow also means sand and that's my flag.



3503

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for about 7 years and I have always thought our state flag was too complicated and I would love to have my flag as our state flag. I have had a ton of ideas and I came up with this.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the lake and river in the city. The feather represents a bald eagle feather and it's down the middle to show that we are the first ones to abolish slavery. The four red stars are to represent the Chicago flags



3504

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by Makayla, on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The flag that I drew is really pretty and shows a lot of color and it represents the Illinois flag for football. I made this flag because it has a lot oof details and it reminds me of the Illinois football team flag. The flag that I designed has details and different colors that represent Illinois.

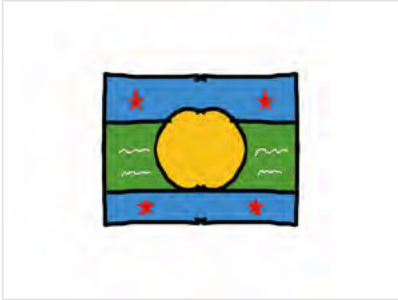
3505

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. In my Integrated Global Studies class at Highcrest Middle School we watched the TED talk about good flag designs. So I know the basics of making a flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The color blue represents Lake Michigan because that is a natural symbol of our state, Illinois. Also I used white lines to show our weather is special from other states, including the sun to show the weather. The green symbolizes agriculture of our corn which is special from others.



3506

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here for my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the prairie of Illinois. The blue shows the lake and water from Lake Michigan. The 20 stars represent the other 20 states and the big star is Illinois when we were admitted into the union.



3507

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for eight years. Living in Illinois is something I do not want to change. I love my school and my town and how educated the teachers are at my school. They have helped me learn so much. I live in Wilmette and there is so much history everywhere you go.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my colors are the color yellow means happiness and welcoming. The color blue stands for wisdom. The color red stands for warmth and excitement. The color white stands for hope and holiness.



3508

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by Lashyla, on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The flag I am submitting has a capital "I" statue with cardinals flying. The flag has bumble bees, a violet, a Illinois sign and a monarch butterfly. The flag has some information about Illinois which is that Illinois was founded in 1818 on December 3rd. I drew this flag because it has most of the state animals and other stuff and it's red and white.





Illinois Flag Commission Submissions

3509

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in southern Illinois, living here my entire life. I have attended school here in the state for most of my childhood--including in elementary and middle school--and still reside here. I plan on continuing my education past college here in the state and participating in the state's growing workforce.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the influence of Native Americans on Illinois' history and the copper represents its agricultural roots and Lincoln's legacy. White as the background represents peace as a foundation for all. The six-pointed star represents Chicago and six key events: creation of Cahokia Mounds; Illinois' founding; Lincoln's election; the Chicago fire; the 1893 World's Fair; and the 1966 Chicago Freedom Movement. The forward-pointing chevron symbolizes the state's progress and bright future.

3510

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2012. I have been living in Illinois for my entire life. I am a student in Wilmette, Illinois. I have been learning about flag designs, and I am still learning. I love Illinois's culture, and history. And lastly, I'm very proud to live in Illinois!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used the colors, orange, blue, and white. I used these colors because they are the colors that represent U of I, one of Illinois's state colleges located in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois. It's a pretty important and successful school, I think it should be on the flag. The I in the middle of the circle on my Illinois flag, symbolizes Illinois, because Illinois starts with the letter I. The white circle surrounding the letter I, represents all of Illinois 's communities coming together. (Unified)

3511

Relationship to Illinois

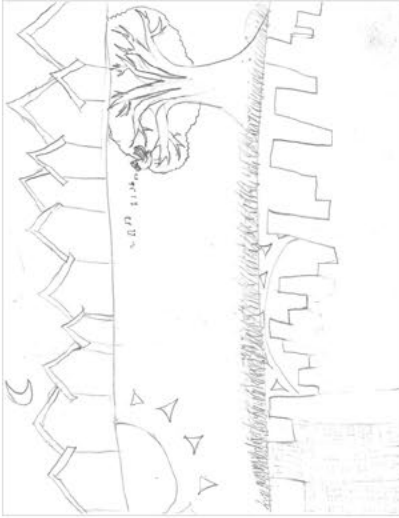
I have lived in Illinois for 40 years of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I feel like the one thing all Illinois residents can rally around is that you do NOT pronounce the S at the end of the word Illinois. I thought this might be a funny flag.



3512



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and it's a pretty great place to live. It's where I go to school, play at the park, and buy food. So in honor of Illinois being so great I drew a flag for the contest. This flag has 3 strips of color each representing an area. The first strip of color has a line of houses with a red background to represent the suburban areas we have. The second strip of color has an orange background and a cardinal singing on a branch of an oak tree in a meadow of prairie grass and violets to

Explain the meaning behind your flag

So in honor of Illinois being so great I drew a flag for the contest. This flag has 3 strips of color each representing an area. The first strip of color has a line of houses with a red background to represent the suburban areas we have. The second strip of color has an orange background and a cardinal singing on a branch of an oak tree in a meadow of prairie grass and violets to

3513



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when I was 4 years old. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow represents the bright spirit of our community. The blue stands for the lake and loyalty to America. The white building in the middle symbolizes the harmony of Chicago and the color white portrays the freedom people have here in Illinois.

3514

Relationship to Illinois

Living in Illinois has shaped so much of who I am today. From the bustling streets of Chicago to the peaceful farmlands, this state has been my home and my inspiration. I've experienced the vibrant culture, cheered on the Blackhawks, and enjoyed countless summers by Lake Michigan. Being in the Land of Lincoln, I'm proud of our rich history and diverse communities. Illinois isn't just where I live; it's where I've built my life, raised my family, and made lasting memories.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My redesigned Illinois flag features a vibrant sun rising over our prairies, symbolizing new beginnings and the state's rich agricultural roots. Rays of sunlight stretch across the sky, representing hope, growth, and the diversity of Illinois' communities. The sun's golden rays echo the warmth and energy of its people, while the white field represents the clarity and pureness of our actions. This fresh design embodies the state's unity and forward-looking spirit.



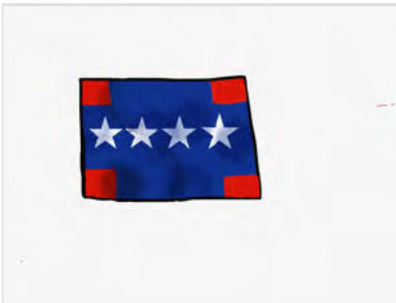
3515

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when I was about a year old. I've lived in Illinois for ten years. I love living in Illinois. Especially visiting Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a proud blue that represents the U.S navy. And there is peeking red in the corners of the flag. The red shows the story of the flaming Chicago fire. And lastly, the four stars in the middle represent the events in Chicago.



3516

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with the flag is all of the people who were in Illinois for hundreds of years and the people in Illinois today. I was also so born in Illinois I've been here all my life and this state means a lot to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of my flag is how grateful Illinois State is and our community helps a lot to make this a better place. And I also go to school in Wilmette Illinois.



3517

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur. I've lived in Illinois my whole life and I think it's perfect. It's never too hot or too cold. There is always something fun to do here. It's a perfect place for vacation.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag has a giant circle in the middle to represent rural and urban parts of Illinois. Around the circle are 13 buildings, 6 right & 7 left. The circle is dark blue outside & light blue inside. The bottom shows a cornfield & red barn & the text Illinois 1818 & 1868. I chose blue for one of the Illinois colors. The circle shows unity and my flag represents all areas of our state. We are all part of our state.



3518

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in southern Illinois, where I have lived my entire life. I attended school here throughout my childhood, including elementary and middle school, and I still reside in the state. I plan to continue my education beyond college in Illinois and participate in the state's growing workforce.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue symbolizes Native American influence on Illinois' history, copper for its agricultural roots and Lincoln's legacy, and the white background for peace as a foundation for all. The border evokes Illinois' river borders. The six-pointed star represents six key events: the creation of the Cahokia Mounds, Illinois' founding, Lincoln's election, the Chicago Fire, the 1893 World's Fair, and the 1966 Chicago Freedom Movement. The forward-pointing chevron symbolizes progress and a bright future.





3519

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois I lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My cardinal on my flag stands for Illinois state bird. And the violet on my flag stands for the Illinois state flower.

3520

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur. My connection to Illinois is that I was born here and have lived here ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The city on my flag represents urban areas. The farm you see represents rural areas. If you look towards the middle of the flag you will see Lincoln's hat representing how there was a president that came from Illinois. Then we have a violet on each side because violet's are the state flower. On the top there is the word Illinois so they know whose it is. I colored it red and white representing the colors of the country flag.



3521

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2013, and always thought our flag was a bit too cluttered, and also thought it was too complicated. But now that I have a chance to maybe have my flag as a state symbol, I have kept thinking of ideas, and came up with this.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents the lake and the Chicago river, but also depicts freedom, relating to how we helped in the Civil war, and how we helped free the slaves. Speaking of freedom, the feather shows how we were the first one to sign the contract to free the slaves. The black shield depicts power, the Chicago stars mean the same, and the yellow shows friendliness.





3522

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the American flag and a title of Illinois to represent Illinois, USA and on the bottom it has the state flower; Violet 2.



3523

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I have lived here my whole life. My grandparents traveled the world and lived on three continents, but they settled here in Illinois because they said it was the best place in the world to raise a family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The intersecting green lines represent Illinois as a hub for agriculture, travel, and commerce. The shape of the lines resemble railroads and highways, while the green color makes them appear to be leaves or rows of crops in the field. The blue in the right represents lake Michigan, and the blue on the left represents the Mississippi. The lines are interwoven to represent the interconnected nature of the state, where rural and urban populations depend on each other for agriculture and commerce.



3524

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and this is what my flag entry is about.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The building is the Kaskaskia State House, which is the Illinois state building. Illinois is called the Land of Lincoln because Abraham Lincoln represented Illinois in the U.S. House of Representatives for one term. Lastly, I put a welcome sign to Springfield, because that is the capital of Illinois. All these drawings are surrounded under the words "Illinois" in cursive.

3525

Relationship to Illinois

I went to college in Peoria, Illinois (Bradley University) for four years to earn my Bachelor's Degree. I also have family - specifically an aunt, uncle, and cousins - who live in Chicago. My family and I will often go up to visit them and tour the city (go to Navy Pier, see the Cloud Gate ("bean") statue, and more). I also have a lot of friends who live in the city and surrounding towns (such as Naperville and Wheaton).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 18-pt. star references Illinois' US representatives, the state's foundation in 1818, & organization as a territory in 1809. The orange signifies the prairies & work zone awareness. The blue represents the surrounding waters (i.e. Lake Michigan, Mississippi river) and the bluegill (state fish). The white nods to the original flag's white field with the line representing commerce & a path towards progression. The circle & star act as the sun shining on the state's water & prairies/lands.



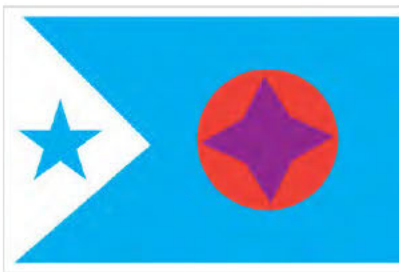
3526

Relationship to Illinois

I stayed in Illinois all my life my family is from illinois i go to school in illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I really don't have a meaning behind the flag but I like the star and the colors.





3527

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I draw my flag so we can be hitting a monster and the others be safe and sound. There is a green for a piece of nature, yellow for a spotlight and black.



3528

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Why I made a shadow of Abraham Lincoln is because it's my dream. I was thinking about the land of Lincoln. The colors dark blue black and white to make the new flag of Illinois. The last thing I did was drawing with the pencil.



3529

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2013, and have been here for 11 years and two months. I currently live and go to school in Wilmette. In my integrated global studies class at Highcrest Middle School, we watched the TED Talk about good flag design.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background portrays the Michigan lake, all the other smaller lakes in Illinois, unity, freedom, peace, justice, and the people. The red stripe characterizes revolution, and patriotic spirit. I wanted to keep the thirteen colonies on the Illinois flag, so the thirteen stars symbolize them. The stars are green to represent the agricultural history of Illinois, and hope for a better future.

3530

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag design is purely based on our state. First, I drew a cardinal because it is our state bird. Then, I thought it would be a great idea to draw our state shape as a flower vase with our beautiful state flower inside. Also, the design on the vase is an American flag because our state is located in America. Next, I added a military camo hat to show respect to our veterans. Last, I added our state name and Land of Lincoln because that is what is on an Illinois license plate.



3531

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



3532

Relationship to Illinois

I have a lot of connections with Illinois, one of them is that I live in Illinois. I've lived here for all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a lot of meanings. For example, the red corners represent strength and love. The eagle symbolizes the national bird. And the five blue stars mean the five in the fifty for the stars on the national flag. And the two gray lines depict Chicago and Springfield which are kind of supporting the five stars which is the U.S.A.





3533

Relationship to Illinois

Hello my name is [REDACTED]. I was born and raised in Illinois. I've joined the art contest to make a new flag for our state, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have a deer jumping over the city to represent the rural parts of Illinois. Under the word Illinois I placed four stars that represent the important events that happened in Illinois.

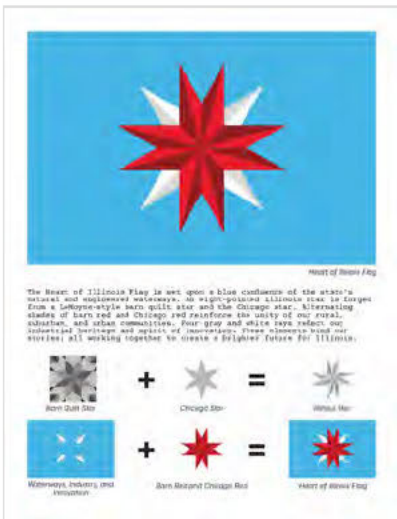
3534

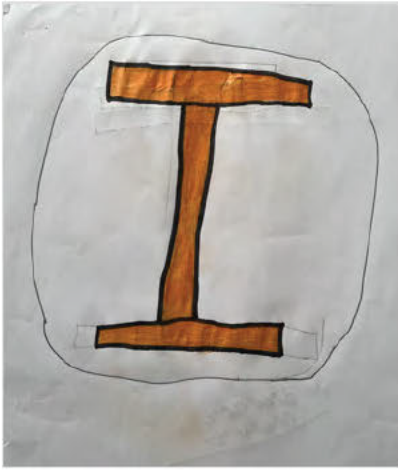
Relationship to Illinois

I am proud to call Illinois home. I am a graduate of Illinois Tech and the University of Illinois. My career spans a breadth of experience with the natural and built environments of Illinois, working on projects across the state with firms specializing in ecological restoration, engineering, and landscape architecture. My wife and I are happily settled in the western suburbs of Chicagoland raising two young Illinoisians. Thanks to them for serving as my in-house design review committee.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Heart of Illinois Flag is set upon a blue confluence of the state's natural and engineered waterways. An eight-pointed Illinois Star is forged from a LeMoyne-style barn quilt star and the Chicago star. Alternating shades of barn red and Chicago red reinforce the unity of our rural, suburban, and urban communities. Four gray and white rays reflect our industrial heritage and spirit of innovation. These elements bind our stories; all working together to create a brighter future for Illinois.





3535

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



3536

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -

3537

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident for over 20 years, and raising a family in Cook County. My wife and I have 3 kids.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Freedom in the Prairie State (version 2)The right-hand side of the image represents the state of Illinois shape, with the curved blue line as the Mississippi river coloring. The top of the curved line represents Native American heritage in Illinois. The Eagle represents Freedom and it carries a thistle representing Illinois agriculture. The green and yellow represents the Prairie State natural coloring of wildlife, farming and environment.



3538

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -

3539

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is: I have lived in Illinois for about 11 years, I go to Highcrest middle school in Wilmette Illinois. I was born in Chicago, Illinois on July 10 2013. I am very proud to live in Illinois. My mom and dad came from Pakistan in 2010 for me to have a better life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the biggest stars meaning is the big city, the windy city. the 1 smallest star means the Chicago fire, the stripes in the big star means Lake Michigan, the 2 smallest star means the Fort Dearborn, the 3 and 4 means the slavery and lastly the 2 to last and last star means the hawk and the capital Springfield.



3540

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



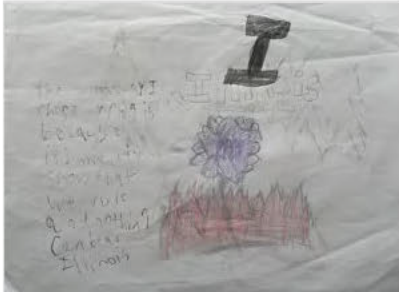
3541

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



3542

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



3543

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident. Thoughtful citizen. Creative person.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Forward" Four diagonal color fields representing richness of water resources (Blue), nature and recreation (Green), agricultural heritage and economic prosperity (Yellow), and the goodness and sensibility of the Illinois people (White). Forward leaning angle represents progress and optimism. A single star of national union anchors the top left corner representing Illinois' admission and statehood. 6-pointed star for cohesiveness of design is identical to star on flag of Chicago. (3:5 ratio)



3544

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] on behalf of Ms. Petrie's class at Montessori Academy for Peace in Decatur.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -

3545

Relationship to Illinois

My wife and I were both born and raised in Wheaton. I moved out of Illinois to attend Purdue and ended up staying in Indiana after graduating. We now live in Indy, but we spend much of the year back home in Illinois. Either back in the suburbs, where both of our families still live, visiting Chicago for a long weekend, or visiting my family's lake house in Dixon. I am a proud member of NAVA and I'm so excited for a new flag to be adopted that represents the beauty of the state and its people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the Illinois Centennial Flag, this design features a segmented blue and gold gusset on a white field. The simple design is distinct yet easily recognizable. The star represents statehood and the gold bars represent our prairies, agriculture, diverse cultures, and impact on the rest of the US. The gold bars create 5 blue bars. These represent the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers and Lake Michigan which create most of our borders and the historically significant Illinois River.

3546

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and I plan to keep it that way. I grew up in Downers Grove, went to NIU, and most recently moved to Rockford. I love the variety of the state and the value that it provides. From skiing to art festivals to beaches to manufacturing Illinois really has whatever you could ask for.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Illinois's place in the middle of everything. The 6 rectangles along the boarder of the flag are a simplified rendition of the 6 states bordering Illinois, which is the central blue field. There is a silhouette of Abraham Lincoln to represent that Illinois is the land of Lincoln. He is facing forward, to the right, to symbolize progress.



3547

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident. Thoughtful citizen. Creative person.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

"A River Runs Through It" Two vertical color fields representing bounty of nature and recreation (Green) and world's finest farmland and economic prosperity it provides (Yellow) evenly bisected by meandering field (Blue), representing the NE to SW trajectory of the Illinois River. Large negative space (White) represents the good-naturedness and down-to-earth sensibility of the people of Illinois. Retaining dominant white color is nod to current flag and bridge between old and new. (3:5 ratio)

3548

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident. Thoughtful citizen. Creative person.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

"The 21st" Two diagonally bounded color fields representing wide open sky (Blue) over expanse of productive and prosperity-producing agricultural land (Yellow), and the goodness and sensibility of the Illinois people (White). Yellow field could alternately be interpreted as prairie. Forward leaning angle represents progress and optimism. A field of 21 stars stacked in a descending formation represents national union and order of statehood admission. Retains dominant white color. (3:5 ratio)

3549

Relationship to Illinois

I am raising a family of 3 kids with my wife in Cook County. I have been an Illinois resident for more than 20 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Freedom in the Prairie State (v3). The broken chain represents the abolishment of slavery in Illinois. The Eagle represents freedom. The curved arrow represents both Native American heritage and an agriculture plant. The blue represents the Mississippi river down the left-hand side of the state. The green and yellow represent the rich agriculture, wildlife and natural habitats within Illinois.

3550

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my entire life! I grew up in Aurora, IL and have always loved everything the state has to offer, from the state parks like Starved Rock and Matthiessen to the rich history in Springfield. I now live in Chicago, my favorite city that I've ever been to, and the place I've always dreamed of living. The people in this state are so special, friendly, and welcoming, and I feel lucky to call it home and have an opportunity to add my own touch to the state by designing a new flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun's design echoes the background of the current flag but modernizes its overall look. 21 rays emitted from the sun, symbolizing Illinois' status as the 21st state inaugurated into the union. 18 stars placed around the sun, reflecting IL's founding year, 1818. The 5 stripes below the horizon are abstract to symbolize both the waters of Lake Michigan and the many rivers found in IL, as well as the rows of grasses found in our farmlands and prairies, showcasing our nickname "the Prairie State".



3551

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents the valuable aspects of the state of Illinois. It has 3 basic colors. I tried to keep some of the colors of the original Illinois flag. I choose blue because it represents the waters and also a sign of vigilance and justice. The red on the flag symbolizes valor and perseverance. The color white is purity. Now let's talk about the design. The blue stripe is the waters, the deer is considered the state animal, the stars represent the biggest city, Chicago.



3552

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Urbana, IL since 2002. I am currently employed by the University of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag references the actual geography of the state - Mississippi River at left with shipping boats, Chicago and a corner of Lake Michigan at the upper right. Historically, the Illinois connection between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi was important for trade. The proportions of the flag are also important - Chicago may be the best known aspect of Illinois, but it is only one part of what we have to offer, so only a small part of the flag. White triangles represent downstate agriculture.



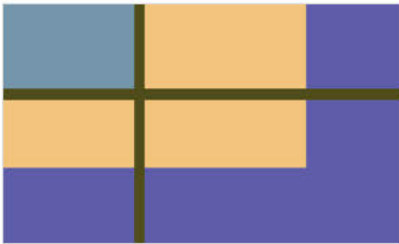
3553

Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raised in Illinois and have lived here most of my life. I was born in Glenview, grew up in Prospect Heights, went to high school in Arlington Heights, college in Champaign-Urbana. I've lived downtown Chicago and live in Mount Prospect now. I love Illinois, it is my home. I have a strong connection to the splendid nature preserves and natural beauty our prairie state has to offer. My family are Illinoisans as well from Chicago, St. Charles, and Rockford.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag was inspired by the Prairie Style of architecture and also the prairie landscape that is definitive of our beautiful state of Illinois. I was inspired by the colors of the prairie grasses, the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan and arranged them in a style reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie Style. Illinois has many famous Frank Lloyd Wright houses.



3554

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois, I've lived here since I was born in Chicago and I've traveled throughout the state and visited many places. Like Springfield, Peoria, Joliet, Rockford, and Aurora.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has a Red-Blue color scheme. The blue line signifies the Northern states, with 10 stars laid across representing those states. And the Red line signifies the Southern States, with 10 stars laid across representing those states. And the white star in the center represents the state star of Illinois.



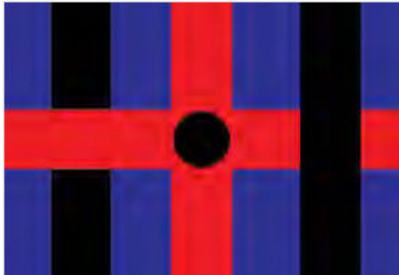
3555

Relationship to Illinois

I stay down here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Just bright colors and a unique style



3556

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I am very proud to be a citizen of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my Integrated Global Studies class, we watched the TED talk about good flag design. I am familiar with the Five Flag Design Principles from "Good Flag, Bad Flag." The blue perimeter represents Lake Michigan and the Northern Cardinal represents energy, passion, and courage.



3557



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when I was 4, before I lived in Illinois I was in Kansas. When I found out I was moving to Illinois I was so excited. I had always wanted to live in Illinois so I can be by the lake and by the city.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The cardinal in the flag represents the state bird and it means that a loved one is near or watching over you, that means that everyone that loved you that passed is still with you. The sun set symbolizes that there is a bright future ahead for Illinois.

3558



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 2013 when I was a baby, and have lived here my entire life. I go to school in Wilmette, and I love the weather here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow represents the sunset, and a new dayThe blue is Lake MichiganThe torch depicts bravery, rebirth, and justice

3559



Relationship to Illinois

I have been born and raised in Illinois since 2012 ,and have only ever gone outside of the state for vacation. Also i have gone to Wilmette middle school

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stars and hills represent the first 13 colonies in AmericaThe broken handcuffs. (Which by the way it was broken by the eagle.) represents anti-slavery.

3560

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2012. I have lived and loved Illinois all my life! My favorite thing about Illinois is its history. I like that we were part of the anti-slavery movement and the underground railroad! The history of Illinois is amazing! But another thing I love about Illinois is it's easy to travel all over the world because O'Hare is one of the world's largest airports! I also like that we are so close to Chicago, a very large and well known city!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind the flag that I created is mainly the red cardinal, a symbolic symbol of Illinois. The red on my cardinal and flag represents the strength and bravery that our state went through to help end slavery! The white on my flag represents peace and unity, our state has a great social system that builds on unity, peace and honesty. The blue represents freedom, as a free state, we get to vote for most everything, the people make the decision!

3561

Relationship to Illinois

I was born here in 2012 and have lived here my entire life. I know the history, and am a proud Illinoisan. All of my family lives in Illinois, and I never want to leave my home state. I love it here so much!!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The color yellow in the wheat stalk represents agriculture and farming, something Illinois is known for. The color blue represents our many lakes, rivers, ponds, and streams. I chose the wheat and the water because although Illinois is the land of Lincoln, we produce a lot of farmed goods and are popular for our many lakes, especially Lake Michigan and its waterfront.

3562



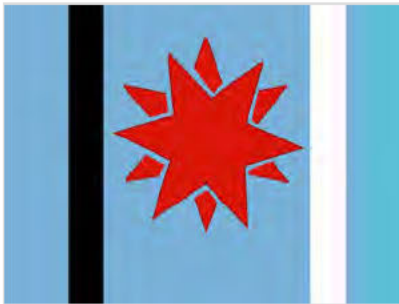
Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

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3563



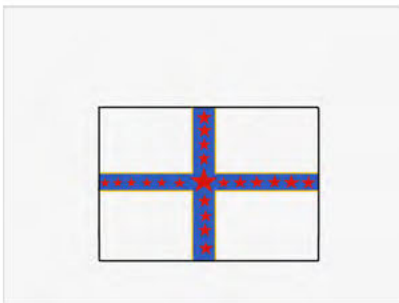
Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago Illinois and I moved to the suburbs when I was five years old. That was 6 years ago. I am currently in Illinois and one of my classes wanted to enter the competition for the flag. I was born in Chicago Illinois and I moved to the suburbs when I was five years old. That was 6 years ago. I am currently in Illinois and one of my classes wanted to enter the competition for the flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The color blue on my flag represents Lake Michigan. The black and white stripes are showing how we were one of the first states to be anti-black law and we are all together. Lastly, the star symbolizes that the stars on the Chicago flag are really important to all of Illinois, not just Chicago. We are all one.

3564



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I have learned Illinois in 6th grade Integrated Global Studies class. And I also have learned about the history of Illinois.

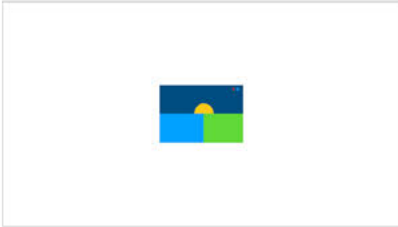
Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my Integrated Global Studies class at Highcrest Middle School, We watched the TED talk about good flag design. The colors and shapes that are in my flag all have their own meaning. The 21 stars represent that Illinois was the 21st state. The blue represents freedom, the red represents luck, and the yellow represents joy.

3565

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in Evanston. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I love the diversity of Illinois. I learned about Illinois in 6th Grade Integrated Global Studies class.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the sun setting on the lake and a prairie. I chose a lake because Illinois has Lake Michigan, one of the largest in the world. I chose a prairie because Illinois is the prairie state. My flag also has 2 stars. These represent the years on the current Illinois flag. 1818: The year Illinois became a state. 1868: The year the seal of Illinois was redesigned.

3566

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when I was only eight months old, and I have been here for almost my entire life.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue lines represent the lake and the river. The star shows how great Illinois is. The red corners represent Chicago, Springfield, Aurora, and Rockford.

3567

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud life-long Illinois citizen. State resources helped me attend and graduate from the University of Illinois Chicago. My daughter currently attends the University of Illinois Champagne/Urbana.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red-white-blue colors and the 5-point star reference Illinois' embrace of national union. The single star edifies Illinois' sovereign state status. The star's 21 emanating rays recognize Illinois as the 21st state. The rays also represent the diversity of the state's communities and assert Illinois as a shining geographic, cultural and economic hub. Red symbolizes bravery and service. White symbolizes virtue and honor. Blue symbolizes justice and truth.

3568

Relationship to Illinois

I visited Illinois many times throughout my life, and always felt a sense of home and connection here. In 2016, I decided to make that home real. I've lived here ever since, and in that time I've found friends and family to last a lifetime, countless career and growth opportunities, and a true connection unlike anywhere else. Illinois is my home, and I'm excited to be a part of her future.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design is rooted in Illinois history, with an eye for the future. The black represents the rich black soil that covers the state, and serves as the birthplace of Illinois's industry and growth. Above it sits an icon of 21 6-pointed stars, representing our place as the 21st state in the union. Diagonal stripes rise in a rustic red and orange, inspired by Illinois's agricultural background, with the stripes representing farmed land, as well as the rising skyscrapers of our cities.

3569

Relationship to Illinois

An iteration of the first design, with an aim towards simplicity. The 21 6-pointed stars sit atop a field of black, representing Illinois's Drummer Silty Clay Loam soil, which is cut at a 45 degree angle, representing growth. The blue and white stripes represent Illinois's incredible horizons and landscapes as well as our tremendous rivers and lakes.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design is rooted in Illinois history, with an eye for the future. The black represents the rich black soil that covers the state, and serves as the birthplace of Illinois's industry and growth. Above it sits an icon of 21 6-pointed stars, representing our place as the 21st state in the union. Diagonal stripes rise in a rustic red and orange, inspired by Illinois's agricultural background, with the stripes representing farmed land, as well as the rising skyscrapers of our cities.

3570

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

A further exploration of similar ideas, this time with a goal of capturing Illinois's true uniqueness. Once again, the 21 6-pointed star icon sits atop a field of black, representing our rich black soil, and creates an angled horizon line from which the state's industries grow. The stripes of white and gold represent our tremendous crops and agriculture industries as well as our history of rising skyscrapers and architecture.

3571

Relationship to Illinois

My name is John Hart. I live with my family in the Chicago neighborhood of Portage Park. I've lived most of my adult life here in Illinois*my wife and I met and married here, we're raising our son here, and we're preparing for the birth of his sister early next year. I'm proud my children will call Illinois home, and I'm proud to live, work and raise our family in such an inspiring place.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Blue BorderUpper line: Lake Michigan. Left: Mississippi River. Right: Ohio & Wabash Rivers. Lower: Illinois & Kaskaskia RiversThe Gold Sunburst and Orange Circle* Freedom: The 13 points = 13th Amendment abolishing slavery; IL was first to ratify* Sun: Agriculture and center of the nation* Sunflower: IL's natural beauty* Energy: Nuclear power began in IL* Ideas: IL leads and inspires in science, industry and artsThe White BackgroundThe light of knowledge, creativity and opportunity

3572

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is that I have lived here almost my entire life. My parents moved here from China and then I was born. I am also very proud to be living in Illinois. It is a very good state, it has good people, good schools, etc.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has many different meanings. The bird in the middle is the Northern Cardinal, the state bird. The blue in the center background represents Illinois wisdom during the time of slavery, as they chose to help the slaves. The gray also represents the times of the slaves. It represents the dark times when Illinois had to help with the Underground Railroad. This is a big part of Illinois, therefore I put it there.

3573

Relationship to Illinois

Since 2002 I have called Illinois my home. And while I live in Chicago, my love extends beyond its borders. I have now spent most of my life here than in my native Detroit, Michigan (and Panam* before that) and am proud to call myself a proud Illinoisian. I love her for all her rich, diverse history, her people all while remaining humble and kind at the same time. From its skyscrapers to rich soil, from the waterfront to the treetops, there's no place I'd rather call home.



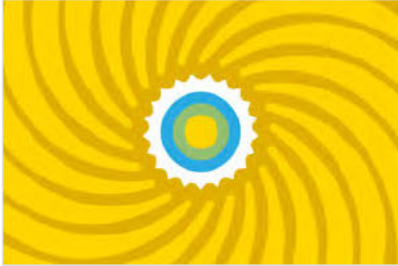
Explain the meaning behind your flag

ILLINOIS IN MOTION: A rich agricultural history (green and orange) bound by water (bright blue) and endless sky (dark blue). The seven-pointed star represents the seven "jewels" of the state, namely: an educated workforce, history of agriculture, innovation in green tech, a global logistics and transportation hub, rich cultural diversity, excellent quality of life and home to a world-class city. The seven-pointed star is duplicated three times to represent us at the 21st state in the union.

3574

Relationship to Illinois

Since 2002 I have called Illinois my home. And while I live in Chicago, my love extends beyond its borders. I have now spent most of my life here than in my native Detroit, Michigan (and Panam* before that) and am proud to call myself a proud Illinoisian. I love her for all her rich, diverse history, her people all while remaining humble and kind at the same time. From its skyscrapers to rich soil, from the waterfront to the treetops, there's no place I'd rather call home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

AT THE CENTER OF IT ALL: All elements converge to the center, representing our geographic location in the country and the world. We are also a gateway and chefs/farmers to the world * all represented by the circular waves (perfect rows of crops). These "rows" point to a white gear in the center (manufacturing). Inside the gear, three concentric circles: a state bound by blue skies and freshwater, lush greenery and driving excitement and promise of the future with a pop of yellow in the middle.

3575

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up visiting Illinois every year to visit family, and moved to the state right after college. And 17 years later, I am still a proud resident of the Prairie State.



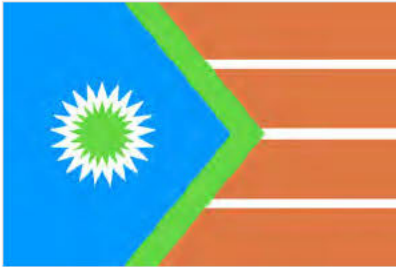
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is an aqua blue, referencing Lake Michigan's unique color, easily differentiating from all other state flag colors. In the center, a 21-sided Abraham Lincoln image is showcased for the "Land of Lincoln" and Illinois' status as the 21st state. Circling Lincoln are 21 stars with a total of 102 points representing the counties. Three of the stars act as directional references for Northern, Central and Southern Illinois. The green & blue represent the Prairie State and the waterways.

3576

Relationship to Illinois

Since 2002 I have called Illinois my home. And while I live in Chicago, my love extends beyond its borders. I have now spent most of my life here than in my native Detroit, Michigan (and Panam* before that) and am proud to call myself a proud Illinoisian. I love her for all her rich, diverse history, her people all while remaining humble and kind at the same time. From its skyscrapers to rich soil, from the waterfront to the treetops, there's no place I'd rather call home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

THE SPARK: The 21-pointed star represents our statehood. The bright blue field and green arrow literally propel us toward the future (left to right). The alternating orange and white fields the history on which we are based. The seven rows represent our agricultural roots, and the strengths of the state: an educated workforce, history of agriculture, innovation in green tech, a global logistics hub, cultural diversity, excellent quality of life and home to a world-class city.

3577

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud life-long Illinois citizen. State resources helped me attend and graduate from the University of Illinois Chicago. My daughter currently attends the University of Illinois Champagne/Urbana.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red-white-blue colors and the 5-point star reference Illinois' embrace of national union. The single star edifies Illinois' sovereign state status. The star's 21 emanating rays recognize Illinois as the 21st state. The rays also represent the diversity of the state's communities and assert Illinois as a geographic, cultural and economic hub. Colors: Red: bravery & service. White: virtue & honor. Blue: justice & truth. The blue bars nod to the iconic Mississippi River & Lake Michigan.

3578

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. My mother immigrated here when she was a teenager. My immediate family and even beyond that live in Illinois, with a significant proportion of it having gone to U of I. We love it here and all it has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's red and blue sections create a horizon with a sky, land, and a 21-lined sun in the middle to showcase a forward-thinking state. The 21 lines symbolize Illinois being the 21st state; the red is for the fertile land, and the blue is for the great lake that helps create some of the state's borders. The right side of the flag has a unique and one-of-a-kind state boundary that only Illinois can claim, helping to give a distinctive visual to our flag.



3579

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. My mother immigrated here when she was a teenager. My immediate family and even beyond that live in Illinois, with a significant proportion of it having gone to U of I. We love it here and all it has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Using angles to frame the flag creates movement and helps showcase the middle symbol of Illinois. The symbol is the state's combined city landscape on top and agricultural imagery on the bottom; these symbols show that the flag represents our entire state. Also, in the flag's top right corner, there are 21 stars, which coincide with the state being the 21st state. We are the 21st state, and the stars come together to create an upward arrow to reinforce the positive future ahead.



3580

Relationship to Illinois



I have lived in Illinois my whole life. My mother immigrated here when she was a teenager. My immediate family and even beyond that live in Illinois, with a significant proportion of it having gone to U of I. We love it here and all it has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is keyed toward simplicity. It shows the 20 small stars before Illinois, with the sizable 21st star representing Illinois centered and the focus. The overall shape of the stars gives a feeling of movement and forward momentum. It is an ownable graphic.

3581

Relationship to Illinois



Hi im Graham and i have lived in Illinois for my entire life and I really like it here so when i heard that we were making a new flag i was all in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is meant to be basic and mean that we are always supporting America and that we are a constitutional state.

3582

Relationship to Illinois

Growing up in the south suburbs of Chicago as the child of Italian immigrants, my parents instilled in me a strong appreciation for hard work, community, and family. Educated in Illinois public schools, I developed a love for the arts, leading me to earn a degree in Graphic Design at UI Chicago. I've called Chicago home for 15 years, drawing inspiration from its vibrant arts scene and dynamic energy. Illinois has profoundly shaped my professional journey and enriched my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design celebrates Illinois' identity and rich history through bold shapes and vibrant colors. The blue bars represent the first three letters of "Illinois," using varying shades of blue to reflect the state's historical identity as a "blue" state. Surrounding the center of the flag are 20 stars symbolizing the states that preceded Illinois, with a prominent gold star at the center representing Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union.



3583

Relationship to Illinois

Growing up in the south suburbs of Chicago as the child of Italian immigrants, my parents instilled in me a strong appreciation for hard work, community, and family. Educated in Illinois public schools, I developed a love for the arts, leading me to earn a degree in Graphic Design at UI Chicago. I've called Chicago home for 15 years, drawing inspiration from its vibrant arts scene and dynamic energy. Illinois has profoundly shaped my professional journey and enriched my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Stars and Stripes of this design celebrates Illinois' with 13 vertical stripes paying homage to Illinois being the first state to ratify the 13th amendment. Blue-highlighted stripes subtly represent the first three letters of "Illinois." Encircling the center are 20 stars symbolizing the states that preceded Illinois, with a prominent center gold star representing Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union. This design honors the state's rich heritage and its pivotal role in American history.



3584

Relationship to Illinois

Growing up in the south suburbs of Chicago as the child of Italian immigrants, my parents instilled in me a strong appreciation for hard work, community, and family. Educated in Illinois public schools, I developed a love for the arts, leading me to earn a degree in Graphic Design at UI Chicago. I've called Chicago home for 15 years, drawing inspiration from its vibrant arts scene and dynamic energy. Illinois has profoundly shaped my professional journey and enriched my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This concept symbolizes Illinois's prominence in the Midwest as a crossroads of commerce and transportation. The 21 tone-on-tone blue stripes represent Illinois as the 21st state to enter the Union and its access to the Great Lakes and vital waterways. The equal division of stripes and solid sections embodies convergence and balance. The star highlights Illinois's role as a central hub, celebrating its contributions to the region's connectivity and economic vitality.



3585

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago 3 years ago for graduate school (and my brother moved here too, for his Medical Residency at Rush). I spend most weekends exploring the different neighborhoods and communities of Chicago, but my partner and I will also drive to the adjacent towns. We go camping in Apple River Canyon State Park every September. I see the lake and the Chicago skyline every day at Promontory Point. I love it here. I want to raise my family here. It feels like Home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The golden lower half is the Prairie. The blue above is the sky, and lake Michigan. The star in the center has 21 points for the 21st state. Its points and color evoke Chicago and its beautiful skyline. Its position straddling the blue and gold may evoke sunrise or sunset over the lake/prairie. On a windless day when the flag is vertical, the blue continues to be the lake in the northeastern corner of the state, and the gold becomes the beaches that everyone flocks to in the summer.



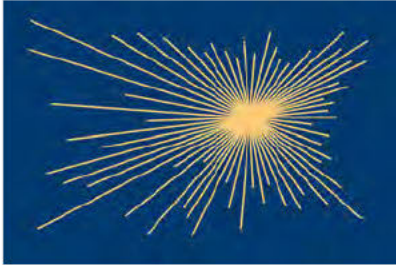
3586

Relationship to Illinois

Stefan is a Chicago native and lifelong Illinois resident. Though based in Chicago, he enjoys exploring the state's smaller towns and takes frequent trips through western Illinois. In recent years he's learned more about Illinois' agricultural innovations, surprisingly diverse topography, and commitments to conservation and sustainability. He believes wholeheartedly that Chicago is America's greatest city, and he's proud of the direction the state of Illinois is headed.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design represents Illinois' central role in the American story, both in terms of geography and its cultural, historical, and economic significance. The emanating lines of varying lengths make up a vague outline of the United States, nodding to Chicago as nationwide railroad hub, and celebrating Illinois as an exporter of agricultural commodities and manufactured goods, as well as culture and knowledge.



3587

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I love sports and food like burgers, buffalo wings, pizza, and hotdogs with ketchup. And I go to school in Wilmette

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Eagle represents the state animal. The blue represents the lake and the cubs. The green represents the river dyed green on St. Patrick's Day.



3588

Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raised in Illinois, it is my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue big bluestem represents the states prairie The red center represents unity and community The blue shield represents its security and protection The 2 blue stripes represents the Mississippi and Wabash rivers The 3 white stars represents Illinois' past, present, and future





3589

Relationship to Illinois

I've been here for more than five years. Illinois became a new home for me and my family.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the flag represents the state and the meaning of being proud to live in Illinois.



3590

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I have lived here since 2012.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and orange represent the state and the 21 stars represent Illinois being the twenty first state.



3591

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for my entire life, as have my parents and a good portion of my family. I've also served as a local elected official for my county, and I've only attended Illinois schools, including colleges/universities. I will always be proud of my home state, and I can't imagine living anywhere else. Illinois is truly "big sky country." We have a world-class major city, a national forest, fantastic small towns and villages, and industry and agriculture to be proud of. I love Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's proportions are 12 by 7, approximating the proportions of Illinois when hung vertically. Three equal horizontal stripes represent the three major regions of Illinois. The white represents the industry of Northern Illinois. The gold represents the grain production of Central Illinois. The green represents the Shawnee National Forest of Southern Illinois, and is Lincoln green for the Land of Lincoln. A blue six-pointed star in the top-left represents Chicago and Lake Michigan.

3592



Relationship to Illinois

I love Illinois. I love food, including burgers, pizza, hotdogs with no ketchup. I have lived in Illinois my entire life I go to school and Wilmette, Illinois. I love living in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eagle represents America and freedom the land represents the land the water represents the lake the sunset represents the sunsets we have here.

3593



Relationship to Illinois

I grew up visiting Illinois every year to visit family, and moved to the state right after college. And 17 years later, I am still a proud resident of the Prairie State.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The aqua blue, references Lake Michigan's unique color, and the bright green, references "The Prairie State". These distinct colors differentiate the design from all other state flags. The 21 pieces in the center represent the 21st state. They are not only tall blades of grass against the blue sky + water (The Prairie State), but a city skyline, a railroad, and a nod to patterns used by original indigenous residents. The design includes Chicago's iconic star "dotting" the "i" of "Illinois".

3594

Relationship to Illinois

I am the Executive Director of a national homeless services organization based in Chicago. I live in the Lakeview during the week and spend my weekends in downstate Henry (pop. 2,500). I also own and operate an AirBNB in the historic Moss Bradley neighborhood in Peoria. My lifestyle allows me to contribute to the state's well-being and experience the rich diversity of Illinois * a vibrant metropolis, a rural farm town, and a welcoming mid-size city.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois' defining features are the prairie and sky. The green and yellow represent the prairie which produces record harvests of soybeans and corn. Blue symbolizes the sky, Lake Michigan and the state's many rivers. The white charge represents Illinois' geographic centrality, our cities which draw immigrants from around the world, as well as hope and new beginnings. The leaf is from the White Oak, our state tree found in all 102 counties. The Oak tree also symbolize strength and endurance.

3595

Relationship to Illinois

Ive lived here all my life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is blue representing the wisdom and trust and i put one big yellow star to represent the 50 stars on the american flag yellow is for the harmony and happiness.



3596

Relationship to Illinois

I have been living in Illinois for all my life, I was born in 2013 I love the food like burgers, hot dogs and more and I love the sports teams like the cubs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my integrated global studies class we were making flag designs and we were submitting it. The sun represents a bright future ahead for Illinois the eagle represents the American bird.



3597

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago 3 years ago for graduate school (and my brother also moved here for his medical residency). I see the lake and the city skyline every day at Promontory Point. I spend most weekends exploring the different neighborhoods and communities in the city, but my partner and I also regularly drive to the neighboring towns. We go camping at Apple River Canyon State Park every September. I love it here. I want to raise my family here. It feels like Home.



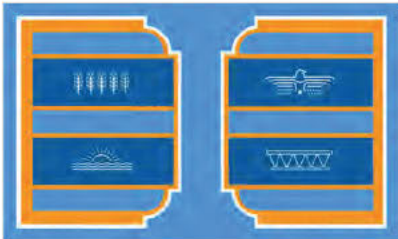
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The golden lower half is the prairie. The blue above is the sky and lake Michigan. The sun has 21 points for 21 states. The points evoke both the sun of the state seal and the Chicago Skyline (as does the red color, matching the Chicago stars). It's position straddling the 2 colors evokes sunrise/sunset of the lake/prairie. On a windless day when the flag is vertical, the gold becomes the beaches that everyone flocks to on beautiful summer days.

3598

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago, and I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I have lived in Oak Park for the last 30 years. I am also a loyal alum of UIUC. I am proud to be a Midwesterner and particularly to be an Illinoisian. There's a lot to be proud of here; there is something about this place that just sticks! Our state is a noble experiment, and the variables are ever-changing - which I will always find interesting and rewarding! My submission is my small homage to the state I call home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Deep Blue bars represents our waterways. Bright Blue evokes the hopeful skies of the prairie. Amber borders represent earthen richness. An outline of the letter "I", an abstraction of a classical column, conveys integrity, strength, and pragmatic simplicity. Five wheat stalks symbolize agricultural bounty. The sun over water evokes birth, growth, new beginnings. The eagle derived from our current flag guards the 21st star. A steel truss represents Illinois's industrial and technological legacy.

3599

Relationship to Illinois

I've only ever visited but Illinois reminds me a lot of my home state of New York. A major similarity being that both have a world famous city which attracts most of the attention to the state but an underrated side outside the big city as well which deserves more recognition. With my flag I hope all residents of Illinois can fly it with pride while representing the state as whole. I also have friends who have moved to the state recently for academic and career opportunities.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue border which runs along the outside of the flag is meant to represent the major rivers of Illinois (Mississippi, Ohio, Wabash, Illinois) The ring of twenty stars is in reference to Springfield's flag and the 21st star represents both Illinois as the 21st state and Lake Michigan in the top right corner (geographic position) A silhouette of Lincoln for the "Land of Lincoln" Gold color background symbolizes the land and rich agricultural tradition as a breadbasket for the U.S.

3600

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up visiting Illinois every year to visit family, and moved to the state right after college. And 17 years later, I am still a proud resident of the Prairie State.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag showcases 21 panels, 21 stars and a 21-sided Abraham Lincoln silhouette all representing Illinois' statehood. The distinctive greens are a nod to "The Prairie State". The use of green allows the flag to stand out among all other state flags, giving Illinoisans a unique, distinct flag to be proud of. The pattern showcases the "Chicago Window", a nod to the city's important place in architecture and birthplace of the skyscraper; it is also a reference to the iconic Prairie Style.



3601

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and attended Southern Illinois University. My wife and I decided to stay in Illinois to raise our two boys in the Chicago suburbs, where we currently live.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

At first glance, you'll notice the distinct shape of Illinois. The gold symbolizes our abundant crops, evoking happiness and positivity. The skyline represents not only Chicago but also the suburban areas and rural farm communities throughout the state. The blue and green stripes reflect our lakes and waterways, while the green signifies our beautiful trees, forests, and thriving crops.



3602

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised and live my life here in Illinois. And I'm incredibly proud to be a resident of this great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It highlights Illinois strengths. Our fairness and equality. We balance urban and rural, industrial and agriculture, with big beautiful skies and Illinois as the sun itself that rises over and sets again each day over the IL landscape. As well as representing equality with showing all colors of the rainbow. IL is the bastion of the Midwest providing fair and equal treatment of its citizens despite where you live, what race or gender you are, or whatever else you identify as. All are welcome!



3603

Relationship to Illinois



I was born and raised in Illinois and attended Southern Illinois University. My wife and I decided to stay in Illinois to raise our two boys.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

At first glance, you'll notice the distinct shape of Illinois. The skyline represents not only Chicago but also the suburban areas and rural farm communities throughout the state. The blue and green stripes reflect our lakes and waterways, while the green signifies our beautiful trees, forests, and thriving crops. The gold symbolizes our abundant crops, evoking happiness and positivity.

3604

Relationship to Illinois



Same country and interested in designing a new flag of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark blue symbolizes the Mississippi River running west of the state. The "ice green" color represents the rich prairie land of the state of Illinois. The ice blue represents the connection of the state of Illinois to the Great Lakes (Lake Michigan). The red star in the middle symbolizes the significance of the city of Chicago to the United States as a whole as well as Illinois. (Note the ratio of the tricolor is not accurate and is up for the judges to decide in case they wish to choose)

3605

Relationship to Illinois



I've lived here since I was 18, I moved here to go to college in 2003 and haven't left yet! My brother and I worked as painters through college getting to know a lot of the Chicago neighborhood and suburbs in the process. Later I owned a workshop/makerspace on Thorndale that did class and afterschool programming from 2014 to 2020, Edgewater Workbench.

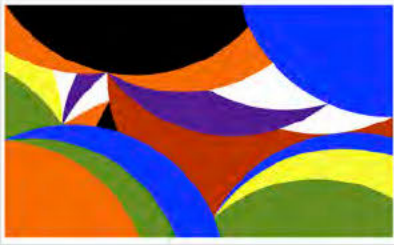
Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to keep it really simple with green to represent the great plains and yellow to represent the corn, as well as the blue water of the lake of course.

3606

Relationship to Illinois

Since I was 13, Illinois has been my home. In earning my engineering degree from the University of Illinois and working for the State of Illinois for 20 years, I appreciate the significance of the symbols of our State. With a stack of colored circles, all the same size, this design can be happily recreated, even by a Kindergartener thinking outside the box.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

From Lake Michigan & the mighty Mississippi to the Wabash & Ohio Rivers, Illinois' borders run blue. Here, monarch butterflies take flight, and cardinals fill the air with song. Our corn & pumpkin feed and fuel the world. Silhouetted in the monarch's wings, wind-filled sails & field of violets, a symbol of the first visible light emitting diode, the modern light bulb invented by an Illinoisan, shines as an icon of innovation & industry. From above, Lincoln's hat speaks of equal rights for all.

3607

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag contains 3 colors; blue, green, and white each one of these has its own meaning. The blue represents the bodies of water we have around us and the sky, the green represents our land and green areas, and the white represents our innocence as a city. My flag also contains a cross with a 6 pointed star that represents our government and our medical team.



3608

Relationship to Illinois

I have been living since I was born, and I am a student in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is green because Illinois always would remind me of green and I thought that it would be nice to keep the green from the old flag.



3609

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Chicago, Illinois. Live in Springfield, Illinois. Employee of the Illinois state government (Illinois General Assembly).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has three colors, which if it moves through the selection process should be: (a) a field of sky blue, (b) a rising sun and 20 stars of lemon yellow, and (c) a border (on the base only) of chocolate tan. Rising sun: should be designed as the same as the one on the current Illinois flag. 20 stars next to the sun's rays: Illinois as 21st state. Chocolate tan base: the rich soil of Illinois. The base can also stand for the First People who live in what is now Illinois.



3610

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the colors, red and blue and white because red stand for valor and bravery, and blue stands for vigilance, preseverance and justice. The logo is a bell, meaning the liberty bell.



3611

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in the small city of Elgin, Illinois. I have met people from different towns and cities of Illinois. Truthfully, the best way to describe Illinois (apart from the U.S. overall) is this amalgamation of different cultures and ideas. From the Chicago Broadway theatres, to the Kane County fair, to the beautiful sights of Cantigny park, Morton Arboretum, and the marvel that is the Superman statue in Metropolis, Illinois. I am very proud to say that I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Truthfully, I based my flag design on the monarch butterfly, the state insect, and the common blue violet, which is the state flower. I wanted the attention of the viewer to be on the butterfly because the monarch butterfly is one of the few organisms, apart from birds, who migrate. They move constantly to secure the lives of the future generations. The blue violet, on the other hand, represents the beauty of everyday life. The background is meant to remind the viewer of nature and of the sky.



3612

Relationship to Illinois

My great-great-grandparents came to IL in the 1860's from Dublin and Prague, looking for the better life the open prairie offered. Four generations later the dream continues. And as I look at my teenage children's future, I appreciate the risks my ancestors took to come here, as much as I appreciate the land we hold in trust for the future, and how precious this American experiment is historically. It's not perfect, but it endures to be ever more perfect. And I am proud to be a part of it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The vast prairie skies, rich with beauty and potential, define the land between the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. From their confluence, 102 lines stretch outward, symbolizing the state's counties. Above a boundless horizon, Illinois' iconic outline floats, inviting unity across its greens and blues. Clean, crisp lines evoke the state's crop fields and urban grids, seamlessly connecting past and present, rural and urban, while inspiring all to come together under the same open sky.





3613

Relationship to Illinois

I live in the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Orange person is Abraham Lincoln, similar to how he is on the penny. Star is there because it adds a nice touch. Colors are the bears/fighting illini.



3614

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 45 year resident with 22 years of teaching experience in central Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I created a bold, yet simple, flag design that includes our heritage as well as incorporating the diversity of our state.



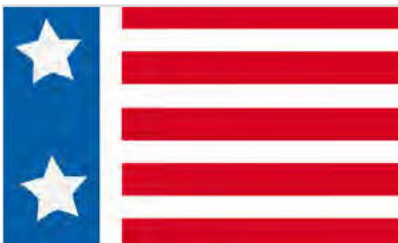
3615

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of 10 years!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design honors Illinois' history and natural beauty. The yellow sun with nine points symbolizes the state's bright future and the nine historic tribes that shaped its early history. Its rising form signifies hope, progress, and new opportunities. The white stripe represents the horizon, reflecting Illinois' diverse landscapes and unity. The light blue stripe pays tribute to the state's rivers, lifelines for trade and culture.



3616

Relationship to Illinois

I live in the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I liked the idea of that it was more close to the og flag

3617

Relationship to Illinois

I have grown up in Illinois. I have met various different people from various different backgrounds. Illinois is an amalgamation of cultures and ideas.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

As I said in my last design, I wanted the butterfly to show change over time with the change of people. The violet signifies the beauty of everyday life. The background enhances these ideas, as it's supposed to represent the colors of the sky, and also is supposed to give us hope that no matter what happens, we will overcome and persevere.



3618

Relationship to Illinois

My wife and I were both born and raised in Wheaton! I moved out of Illinois to attend Purdue and ended up staying in Indiana after graduating. We now live in Indy but spend much of the year back home in Illinois. We are often in Illinois spending time with our families who still live in Wheaton, visiting Chicago for a long weekend, or at my family's lake house in Dixon. I'm a proud member of NAVA and I'm excited for a new flag to be adopted that represents the beauty of the state and its people!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a yellow-gold and white bicolor with a navy stripe and a shield emblem. The gold represents the prairies and farms tied to Illinois' identity, the white symbolizes endless opportunity, and the shield alludes to our current flag, symbolizing Illinois' history. 3 7-point stars represent our status as the 21st state. The shield stripes and tip symbolize key waters: Lake Michigan, the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash Rivers, which form the border and the historically significant Illinois River.



3619



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. The best thing about living in Illinois is all of the natural wildlife and crops. I also think that living near the Mississippi river is another great asset of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Illinois flag that I designed has 2 blue winding lines crossing through the center, with red at the top and bottom open sections. On the top red section, there is a white star to represent one out of fifty. The blue lines going through the middle represent the rushing Mississippi river.

3620



Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A triumphant red cardinal soars above a river of white stars on an azure blue background, symbolizing hope and freedom. Our state bird represents confidence and Illinois' pioneering spirit. The river is the Mississippi and others which shape our borders and history. 3 bends stand for the 3 regions of the state. 18 large stars and 18 small are the year of statehood. 12 cardinal feathers + 3 river bends + 18/18 stars is our 12/3/1818 date of statehood. 18 stars + 3 bends = 21st state in the Union.



3621

Relationship to Illinois

i am a student in a computer graphics class at Neuqua valley which is located in the Indian prairie district. i am entering the competition for the state flag .

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the bald eagle represents the united states and the colors which are violet which represents violet(flower), green represents the greenery and the yellow represents the corn fields throughout Illinois.

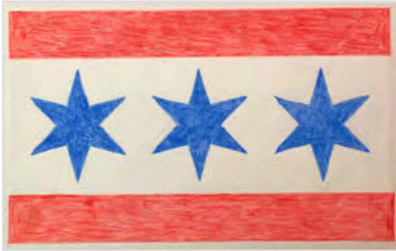
3622

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to IL when I was 11 and lived here for 16 years. I graduated from U of I Urbana-Champaign. I left for 17 years, then returned because it's a great place to raise children. I was also drawn back because I still have good friends here, most of whom I've known since middle school. My wife's whole extended family lives in IL since they moved here from southern Italy in the nineteenth century. I've lived in five states and visited 42 of them. What I like most about IL are the people.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white field symbolizes the prairie that originally covered IL and the 10,000 years of habitation by native peoples. The two red stripes represent the working people of IL, one for the urban/suburban and one for the rural. The three stars represent the three nations that have ruled the territory that is now our state. The six points of the stars represent the major industries of IL: manufacturing, finance, agriculture, IT, transportation, and tourism; and also a nod to the flag of Chicago.



3623

Relationship to Illinois

I am an 8th grade student at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Academy in Chicago Illinois. I have traveled to Springfield to compete in the National History competition.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag depicts a red cardinal which is the state bird of Illinois. I also depict purple violets which are the state flowers of Illinois. It also shows a river between two grass fields to represent the country part of Illinois.



3624

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, and while my roots in the state run deep, I also lived and worked in other states and countries, before returning to finish school, marry, run a business, and raise children. I have long been curious about geography and state symbols. Illinois has geographical and historical features worth commemorating in our state symbols: the blue waterways that put Illinois at the center of the continent, the rich brown soil, the green and yellow of grain, and the red of struggle.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Here is a flag that a child can color, that represents the State of Illinois, and is recognizable at a glance or from a distance. It will not need "ILLINOIS" printed on it. Unlikely to be confused for others, it is unique within a familiar convention: some flags have horizontal bands, but often in two or three colors. Using an eight-crayon box, a child can color horizontal bands of red, brown, blue, green, yellow: colors found in the Great Seal of the State of Illinois and rich with symbolism.

3625

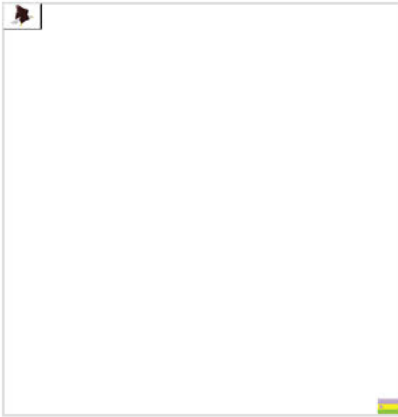
Relationship to Illinois

I am 47 years old and was born in & reside in Bellville, IL & have lived in Illinois most of my life (minus 4 years of college & a brief career as a pro football player). I would like to add that I lived briefly in & have had several football teammates that were from TX & they were all very proud of their state and it centered around their flag. Our state needs a new symbol of patriotism and state pride. I designed this flag to appear as if it is flying and would love to see it take flight.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Unity & progress. Fleur de lis/arrowhead represent peace & compromise between the French & Native Americans. Chicago skyline and rural IL farmland. Abraham Lincoln-IL symbol of unity, fought to end slavery and preserve the union. Historical-State Capital, Cahokia Mounds. Progress (Western Expansion)-Lewis & Clark, Eads Bridge-discovering/bridging/uniting East and West through our great state. 21st state-21 stripes as eagle's wings carrying/protecting/flowing joined in the middle-Illinois.



3626

Relationship to Illinois

i am a student in a computer graphics class at Neuqua valley which is located in the Indian prairie district. i am entering the competition for the state flag .

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the bald eagle represents the united states and the colors which are violet which represents violet(flower), green represents the greenery and the yellow represents the corn fields throughout Illinois.



3627

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. I think its great because of the of the food and the Mississippi.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a green triangle on the left with a black star inside. It has a yellow shape on top and a blue shape on the bottom. The green is the plants the yellow is the crops and the blue is the Mississippi.



3628

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I made my flag with a lake on it because my Mimi lives by a lake and it reminds me of her house. I also drew a deer because I see deer at my house. When I learned that the butterfly is our state bug I knew I had to add some to my flag.

3629



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I chose a cardinal because it's the state bird. I chose an eagle on the flag because it's on the state flag. I chose a tree because I wanted a cardinal flying over a tree. I chose red, white, and blue for Illinois colors. I chose a hill under the tree because I wanted it a little taller.

3630



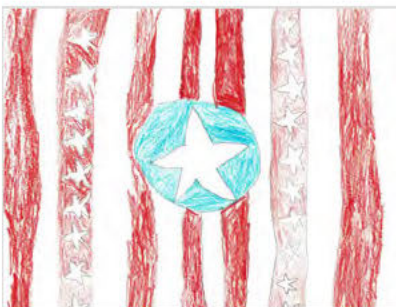
Relationship to Illinois

I am a computer graphics student at Neuqua Valley High School and I am submitting my designs to enter the competition for the new Illinois flag design.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used aspects of the state staples such as the red cardinal and the purple violet. I drew a circle around the cardinal to represent a well-rounded state in which we have big cities and farmland. We are not only known for Chicago but we are also known for our farmers.

3631



Relationship to Illinois

I am grateful I live in Illinois because I love the flat ground here. It gives a lot of room for farming.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It has a larger white star in the middle inside of a blue circle. The star symbolizes Illinois. It has stripes but they are going upward. The stripes have a pattern of red and white like to USA flag. on two stripes both in the red stars go through them.

3632



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -For my flag I picked a cardinal. I picked this design because people say that if you see a cardinal it brings good luck for 12 days. I added the shield from the Illinois Flag because it is the original 13 colonies of the USA. Another reason why I put the cardinal on my flag is because it's the state bird.

3633



Relationship to Illinois

I am a student in a graphic design class at Nequa Vally High School in Naperville, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is of the state animal, the whitetail deer, with the skyline of Chicago. This symbolizes where we started as a state vs. where we are now. The flag's colors are red, blue, and yellow. Red and blue are a part of our state colors; the exact shades I used for the red and blue are close to the colors of the Chicago flag. The yellow of the flag symbolizes the corn fields that cover the majority of our state.

3634



Relationship to Illinois

I am a student in a graphic design class at Nequa Vally High School in Naperville, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is of the state animal, the whitetail deer, with the skyline of Chicago. This symbolizes where we started as a state vs. where we are now. The flag's colors are red, blue, and yellow. Red and blue are a part of our state colors; the exact shades I used for the red and blue are close to the colors of the Chicago flag. The yellow of the flag symbolizes the corn fields that cover the majority of our state.

3635

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag depicts a whitetail deer roaming in the plains with a cardinal flying overhead. There are white oaks in the background along with the Mississippi River as well as mountains. My flag shows many state symbols and geographic features. The lower portion depicts the word Illinois in bold font. I kept the center circle design to pay homage to the old flag. My flag is a great flag because it is a good representation of Illinois.



3636

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a resident of Illinois and have lived here my entire life. I live in a somewhat rural area and have lived in the northern suburbs of the state. I travel around the state often and familiar with the overall urban, suburban, and rural areas.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

To me, corn and fields always first come to mind when I think of IL. Corn is largely produced here and it's a notable geographical feature of the state so I wanted to represent it in my flag. The green parts represent the fields and overall whole is a corn. It can also be interpreted as a sun rising among the fields of IL. My flag also is meant to not deviate too much from the original flag so it's not completely unrecognizable.



3637

Relationship to Illinois

i am a student in a computer graphics class at Neuqua valley which is located in the Indian prairie district. i am entering the competition for the state flag .

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the bald eagle represents the united states and the colors which are violet which represents violet(flower), green represents the greenery and the yellow represents the corn fields throughout Illinois.



3638



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew my flag design like this because Abraham Lincoln, he was born and raised in Illinois. The eagle represents America. The American Flag also represents America. So, in conclusion this is why I drew my flag like this.

3639



Relationship to Illinois

This flag is a simplistic design with deep meaning. My grandparents were from Vandalia, IL so my ties to IL have always been strong. I myself have lived in IL for 6 years. I log many hours biking across the IL countryside; seeing all the beautiful prairie and forest preserves. My wife and I used to come to IL to bike and tour long before we moved here and always knew we would make IL home some day.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

3 colors: The color red represents the state bird the cardinal. The color blue represents the sky above the prairies. The color tan represents the vast prairies for the Prairie State. Design: The single star ties the flag to the US Flag. A single star for the single state. The red waves represent the wing of the cardinal. While the tan waves represent the waves of grass and grain in the rolling prairies. Together the waves represent Illinois's large agricultural community.

3640

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinois resident that has earned two college degrees from the state's Moody Bible Institute (Communications) and Columbia College Chicago (Art/Design) degrees - the latter cum laude.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Northern Cardinal is the Illinois State Bird, and its evocative plumage is a reminder of nature's brilliance. This feather reference Illinois's indigenous tribes, and is a design based on an amalgamation of native angular feather renditions. The feather features 21 black lines (including the tip), hewing to Illinois's standing as the 21st State. This feather's interior lines are directly influenced by the State's Prairie School window grids. Red/black are indicative of regional sports teams.



3641

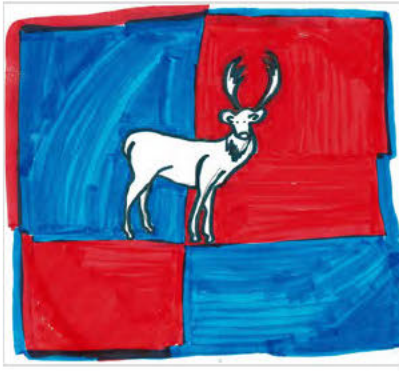
Relationship to Illinois

I have proudly been an Illinois resident for over 12 years. Hailing originally from the state of Texas, I moved here to enjoy many things that Illinois has to offer; diverse cities, a gorgeous lake, beautiful nature, and, of course, thriving arts and so much culture. I met my spouse in Illinois, got married here, and set down roots. I'm proud to be an Illinoisan and Chicagoan!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Though Illinois is called the Prairie State, less than 0.01% of its original 21 million acres of prairie remain. This flag honors the state's ecological roots, featuring native grasses and flowers found in Illinois prairies. The circle symbolizes our return to nature and our work to protect and expand these spaces for future generations. The clustered star at the bottom center represents land, water, and people uniting to shape our state. Together these elements celebrate our natural heritage.





3642

Relationship to Illinois

I think it is grate and i love living here it beautiful

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag that I made is two sides red and two sides blue with a deer in the middel to represent all the deer we see here



3643

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The flag I have designed focuses on the state's nature. The tree is a beautiful white oak on a hill. The majestic red cardinal is our state bird and happens to be my favorite bird. I love the white-tailed deer so of course I had to include it. I think the current font is perfect just the way it is.



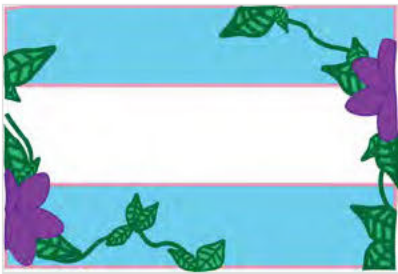
3644

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student at Neuqua Valley High School in a computer graphics class, and I have lived in Illinois for my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white tailed deer is our state animal, so I put that in the center. Around it, I added 20 stars and then placed an extra one underneath it to symbolize how Illinois was the 21st state added to the union. Finally, I used red, white, and blue because those are the national and state colors



3645

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student in a graphic design class at Nequa Vally High School in Naperville, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is of the state flower, the violet, wrapped around a pastel version of our state colors, as well as the violet's green and purple.



3646

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - In my drawing of the Illinois state flag I drew a corn stalk because our state is known for corn. I put violets because they are the state flower. The state butterfly is orange, so I drew a state butterfly. I put an American flag to represent our state flag.



3647

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The white-tailed deer, in a cornfield, with the violet and a deer and flower in the sun. This represents some bright things in the Land of Lincoln.

3648

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student at Nequa Valley High School who is participating in an assignment to create a flag for the state I live in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white stars surrounding the border represents our 18 U.S. representatives for our state. The blue border in the center is in the shape of a log cabin occupied by Abraham Lincoln's Father, Thomas Lincoln. The figure in the center is a cardinal. I specifically chose to design it the way I had because I couldn't really decide on the perspective in which the cardinal should face, and I didn't want to over-detail it because I wanted it to blend in with the flag's vexillography.



3649

Relationship to Illinois

I have proudly been an Illinois resident for over 12 years. Hailing originally from the state of Texas, I moved here to enjoy many things that Illinois has to offer; diverse cities, a gorgeous lake, beautiful nature, and, of course, thriving arts and so much culture. I met my spouse in Illinois, got married here, and set down roots. I'm proud to be an Illinoisan and Chicagoan!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design shows Illinois on a six-sided star, with blue dots hinting at Lake Michigan. The star serves as a compass, symbolizing Illinois' role in westward expansion, the Great Migration, and modern movement to the state. Made of three shapes, it honors the Three Fires Confederacy. The compass points to the future, with Lake Michigan as a climate refuge. Green represents our land, blue our water and movement, and yellow the prosperity of Illinois and its people. Our history and our future.



3650

Relationship to Illinois

Born, raised, & residing in the suburbs of Chicagoland, Illinois has always been my home. I enjoy being part of my local community in Aurora, embracing both the natural beauty & vibrant culture around me. I've built a life here that thrives in the balance between natural & urban settings. Inspired by Illinois' diverse landscapes & the magic of its four seasons, this flag design reflects this connection. This design was made in collaboration with fellow Illinoisan, Josh Rinehart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design reflects a united Illinois & honors all who call it home. The emblem, called The Crown of the Midwest, features golden grains symbolizing the wheat & corn of Central & Southern Illinois. The six grains at the crown's center form a star, echoing the Chicago flag, highlighting the city's leadership in industry, art, & culture. The 21 grains represent Illinois as the 21st state of the Union. The navy symbolizes Lake Michigan, the Mississippi, Ohio, & Wabash Rivers bordering the state.



3651

Relationship to Illinois

i am a student in a computer graphics class at Neuqua valley which is located in the Indian prairie district. i am entering the competition for the state flag .

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the bald eagle represents the united states and the colors which are violet which represents violet(flower), green represents the greenery and the yellow represents the corn fields throughout Illinois.



3652

Relationship to Illinois

citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

it is the Illinois flag





3653

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I did my flag like this because a cardinal is the state bird and I did the flower because they are the state flower. I put two of the state of Illinois.



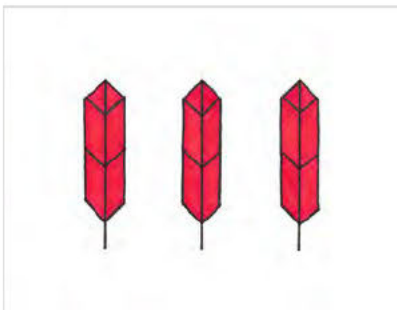
3654

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student in a graphic design class at Nequa Vally High School in Naperville, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is of the state animal, the whitetail deer, with the skyline of Chicago. This symbolizes where we started as a state vs. where we are now. The flag's colors are red, blue, and yellow. Red and blue are a part of our state colors; the exact shades I used for the red and blue are darker versions of the colors of the Chicago flag. The yellow of the flag symbolizes the corn fields that cover the majority of our state. this is a variation of my original flag



3655

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinois resident that has earned two college degrees from the state's Moody Bible Institute (Communications) and Columbia College Chicago (Art/Design) degrees - the latter cum laude.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Northern Cardinal is the Illinois State Bird, and its evocative plumage is a reminder of nature's brilliance. The three feathers represent the Council of Three Fires, an indigenous treaty last codified in 1833. These feathers feature 21 black lines in total, hewing to Illinois's standing as the 21st State. These images double as buildings in the Modern Style and as Prairie School window grids. Red/black are indicative of regional sports teams.

3656



Relationship to Illinois

I am a student at Neuqua Valley High School located in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The monarch butterfly is the state insect of Illinois and has been since 1975. They are very recognizable and beautiful creatures. The two blue stripes, one above and one below the butterfly, are a tribute to the Chicago flag, which also has two blue stripes. The two stripes are a reminder of Lake Michigan and the Chicago River which are important waterways in our state.

3657



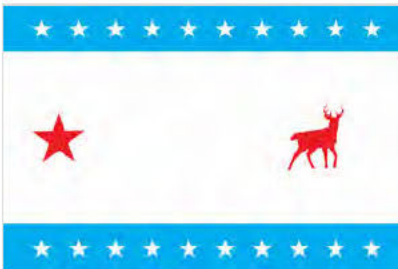
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew the Illinois state flower because it's beautiful. I also drew the monarch because butterflies love flowers. It is day, so I made the background blue. And I also thought if the background was gradient, it would look beautiful.

3658



Relationship to Illinois

I am a student at Neuqua Valley High School in a computer graphics class, and I have lived in Illinois for my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used the white tailed deer because it is the state animal, along with the 21 stars to show how Illinois was the 21st state added to the union. I also used red, white, and blue because those are the national and state colors.

3659

Relationship to Illinois

Born, raised, & residing in the suburbs of Chicagoland, Illinois has always been my home. I enjoy being part of my local community in Aurora, embracing both the natural beauty & vibrant culture around me. I've built a life here that thrives in the balance between natural & urban settings. Inspired by Illinois' diverse landscapes & the magic of its four seasons, this flag design reflects this connection. This design was made in collaboration with fellow Illinoisan, Josh Rinehart.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design reflects a united Illinois & honors all who call it home. The emblem, called The Crown of the Midwest, features golden grains symbolizing the wheat & corn of Central & Southern Illinois. The six grains at the crown's center form a star, echoing the Chicago flag, highlighting the city's leadership in industry, art, & culture. The 21 grains represent Illinois as the 21st state of the Union. The white field symbolizes fresh opportunity, & Illinois as a guiding light in the Midwest.

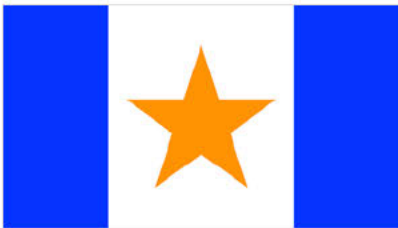
3660

Relationship to Illinois

CITIZEN OF ILLINOIS

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue on left represents the Mississippi River Blue on Right represents Lake Michigan The Orange Star in the center represents the people and land empowered and connected by both



3661

Relationship to Illinois

This flag is a simplistic design with deep meaning. My grandparents were from Vandalia, IL so my ties to IL have always been strong. I myself have lived in IL for 6 years. I log many hours biking across the IL countryside seeing all the beauty the prairies offer. My wife and I used to travel to IL, biking and touring around long before we lived here-we always knew we'd call IL home one day!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

3 colors: The color green represents the IL agriculture community. The color blue represents the sky above the prairies. The color tan represents the vast prairies.

Design: The single star ties the flag to the US Flag. A single star for the single state. The green waves represent the wing of a bird flying over the prairies, while capturing summer green. While the tan waves represent the waves of grass and grain. Together the wings represent Illinois's large agricultural community.

3662

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I picked the red cardinal bird because it's the state bird. I picked the violet flower because it's the state flower and it looks good.



3663

Relationship to Illinois

After growing up on the east coast of the US and abroad, I settled into Illinois about a decade ago. I have family roots here - my parents met at college in Illinois, and my 3 siblings all went to that same college. I've loved how unique and varied Illinois is - from the forests, rivers, and prairies to the bustling cities and expanse of Lake Michigan.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Vertical stripes form the letters "ILL" When displayed vertically, layout suggests the shape of Illinois, with the blue square representing Lake Michigan in the northeast National Union - colors, shapes, and layout evoke the nation's flag State Sovereignty - central yellow star reflects Illinois' central place and the colors of the sun and prairies

3664

Relationship to Illinois

My parents both moved to Illinois because of my dad's job. They have lived in central Illinois for about 22 years and they both work at the U of I. I go to track meets at the indoor track on campus and I watch almost all of the sports for Illinois, I especially love the volleyball games. My teacher also has us write many essays for around the state for contests. I love the elevation of Illinois and how I can see almost 20 miles out wherever I'm looking.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My Illinois flag design includes a silhouette of Abraham Lincoln, the state, a cob of corn, Illinois spelled in orange and the words "Since 1818". The Abraham Lincoln head is because he is an empowering man from this state and a great American symbol that we can say is our own. A corn cob because that is one of the most agriculture products we produce. A silhouette of the state to show people how proud we are of the shape of this state. The color blue for serenity and orange for happiness.

3665

Relationship to Illinois

My parents both moved to Illinois because of my dad's job. They have lived in central Illinois for about 22 years and they both work at the U of I. I go to track meets at the indoor track on campus and I watch almost all of the sports for Illinois, I especially love the volleyball games. My teacher also has us write many essays for around the state for contests. I love the elevation of Illinois and how I can see almost 20 miles out wherever I'm looking.

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3666

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag has a picture of Abraham Lincoln with an Illinois-shaped head. Abraham Lincoln also has a cardinal bird on his arm. Illinois is spelled out above Abraham Lincoln's head.



3667

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew all the state animals and plants because that's what I think represents Illinois.



3668



Relationship to Illinois

I am a student in a computer graphics class at Neuqua Valley High School, and have lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used the violet in the center because it is our state flower, along with prairie grass because Illinois is the prairie state. I also used various shades of our state color blue.

3669



Relationship to Illinois

After growing up on the east coast of the US and abroad, I settled into Illinois about a decade ago. I have family roots here - Illinois is where my parents met and were married, and my 3 siblings all went to the same college in Illinois. I've loved the unique and varied parts of Illinois - from the forests, rivers, and prairies to the bustling cities and expanse of Lake Michigan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Layout suggests the shape of Illinois, with the blue square representing Lake Michigan in the northeast. Horizontal stripes form the letters "ILL". National Union - colors, shapes, and layout evoke the nation's flag. State Sovereignty - central yellow star reflects Illinois' central place and the colors of the sun and prairies.

3670



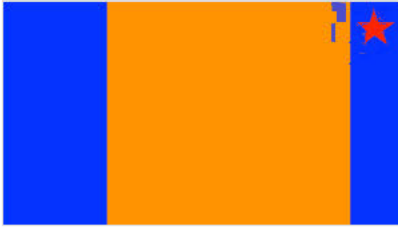
Relationship to Illinois

I am a student at Nequa Valley High School who is participating in an assignment to create a flag for the state I live in. I have been a resident here for my entire life so far.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Slight variant from previous submission. The blue stars surrounding the border represents our 18 U.S. representatives for our state. The brown border in the center is in the shape of a log cabin occupied by Abraham Lincoln's Father, Thomas Lincoln. The figure in the center is a cardinal. I specifically chose to design it the way because I wanted it to blend in with the flag's vexillography.

3671



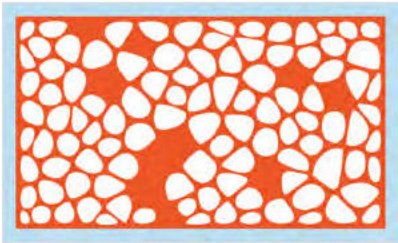
Relationship to Illinois

CITIZEN OF ILLINOIS

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue on the left represents the Mississippi River
Blue on the right represents the Chicago River
The Red Star represents Illinois largest City - Chicago
The Orange in the center represents the land and people of Illinois

3672



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinoisian with strong family and professional ties to the state. I was born and raised in Chicago; am currently a professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and run my own landscape architecture company in Chicago. Through my citizenship, teaching, and professional work I am committed to creating more sustainable and beautiful landscapes across Illinois and the greater Midwest.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag celebrates our state's natural features and political jurisdictions through a layout inspired by the wings of our state insect, the Monarch Butterfly. There are 103 cells in total*one for each county and one more representing current and future federally recognized tribal lands. The blue frame represents Illinois waterways and the burnt orange recalls stunning prairie sunsets and vast agricultural lands.

3673



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - On my flag the corn represents the agriculture in our state and the cardinal is our state bird, so is the butterfly. The flowers are our state flower. The lake represents the lakes in our state.

3674

Relationship to Illinois

Ever since I was a kid, I've been proud to call Springfield my home. I come from generations of Illinoisans and have chosen to raise my family here as well. I've spent much of my life exploring the state and experiencing its wonders firsthand. What I've found is there is much to what makes Illinois great: our history, our prairie setting, our variety of people and the places they live. My designs reflect these qualities in a way that can hopefully inspire others to share my pride for my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The outline of Abraham Lincoln symbolizes liberty, opportunity and the equality of all people. The circle of 21 stars represents our communal togetherness and honors our state being the 21st to join the USA. The white star symbolizes Chicago and its upper-right location. The 13 shining rays honor Illinois being the first state to ratify the 13th amendment. Dark blue represents our blue-collar attitude and industrial power. Light blue represents our optimism. White represents our bright spirit.

3675

Relationship to Illinois

CITIZEN OF ILLINOIS

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue on the left represents the Mississippi River. The Blue on the right represents Lake Michigan (and the Great Lakes). The diagonal blue line represents the connection between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River (via canals, locks and rivers). The Orange Star in the center represents the land and people of Illinois who benefit from these powerful connections.



3676

Relationship to Illinois

This flag is a simplistic design with deep meaning. My grandparents were from Vandalia, IL so my ties to IL have always been strong. I myself have lived in IL for 6 years. I log many hours biking across the IL countryside seeing all the beauty the prairies offer. My wife and I traveled here often before we moved, biking and touring. We always knew we'd one day call IL home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

3 colors: The color green represents the IL agriculture community. The color blue represents the sky above the prairies, as well as the rivers and lakes. Design: The single star ties the flag to the US Flag. A single star for a bright future. The green chevrons represent the prairies. While the blue chevrons represent the lakes and rivers. Together they show the abundance in resources IL has to offer.

3677

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois has been here since birth . I was born and raised in Urbana, Illinois. Illinois is a beautiful State with awesome people. I hope that the flag I sent your way represents the State of Illinois and the whole of the United States.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On the top two corners there are farms and a big city trying to represent both populated areas and the farming community. Both join together to a courthouse representing justice and communion. at the bottom of the paper there are two figures- Abraham Lincoln and Chief Black Hawk representing the native American people and our possibly greatest president of all time.



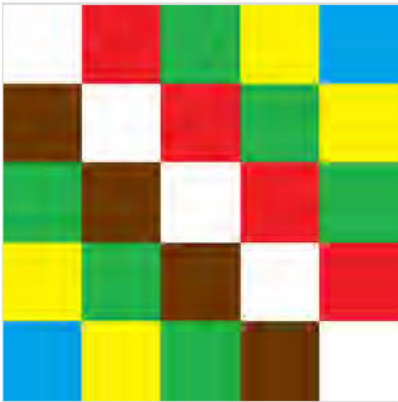
3678

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, and while my roots in the state run deep, I also lived and worked in other states and countries, before returning to finish school, marry, run a business, and raise children. I have long been curious about geography and state symbols. Illinois has geographical and historical features worth commemorating in our state symbols: the blue waterways that connect the continent, the rich brown soil, the green and yellow of grain, and the red of struggle, and the white of peace.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Here is a flag that stands out at a glance or from a distance, inspired by the Wiphala flag of the Andes and reminiscent of quilting, but unique in its design, representing the State of Illinois using the colors of the current state flag. Unlikely to be confused for others, it will not need "ILLINOIS" printed on it. Using an eight-crayon box, a child can color squares of red, brown, blue, green, yellow: colors found in the Great Seal of the State of Illinois and rich with symbolism.



3679

Relationship to Illinois

Ever since I was a kid, I've been proud to call Springfield my home. I come from generations of Illinoisans and have chosen to raise my family here as well. I've spent much of my life exploring the state and experiencing its wonders firsthand. What I've found is there is much to what makes Illinois great: our rich history, our landscape, our variety of people and the places they live. My designs reflect these qualities in a way that can hopefully inspire others to share my pride for my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The outline of Abraham Lincoln symbolizes liberty, opportunity and the equality of all people. The outline of Illinois symbolizes the pride we share for our state. The circle of 21 stars represents our communal togetherness and honors our state being the 21st to join the USA. The white star symbolizes Chicago and its upper-right location. Dark blue represents our blue-collar attitude and industrial power. Gold represents our prairie and agricultural history. White represents our bright spirit.



3680



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The description of my flag design is the eagle in the nest with the American flag and the old Illinois flag and the old Illinois flag is for America. The old Illinois flag is for part of Illinois' history of the flag. The white-tailed deer is one of our state symbols so that is why I added it.

3681



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for much of my life, though I have not been around all of Illinois it's still my home. Thus I still feel like I'm a part of the state and I understand the desire to try to connect our state with a common design to unify the vast areas of the state to better represent our cultures that We make us Illinois people. For the longest time I never saw our flag as a flag of Illinois. As someone who lives in the Chicago area I felt the flag should show more of our state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my design for the Illinois flag contains the 3 regions of Illinois. The Northern part of the flag represents the Illinois waterways, most notably Lake Michigan, Illinois River, and the Mississippi River as well. The Middle represents Central Illinois the yellows shows the vast farm lands as well as the prairie with fields of gold of corn and tallgrass prairie. In the bottom represents Southern Illinois the green is the Shawnee National Forest. And the stars represent the major urban centers.

3682

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I've lived here my whole life. I've made so many memories here, and it would be incredible to contribute something to this state, and not only that, but how cool is it that I get the opportunity to design a real flag. My parents also grew up in Illinois, and met, and got married here. I guess without Illinois, I might have never existed. Illinois has been my home for all fifteen years of my life, and they've been a good fifteen years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my redesign I portray the three main regions of Illinois as three vertical white stripes, much like the three horizontal stripes shown in Chicago's flag, Illinois' largest city. The two turquoise stripes represent the blue waters of lake Michigan, and the fields/blue grass that gives our state our title, the Prairie State. The top half of the circle in the middle depicts the state's flower, the violet, and the bottom represents the corn and soybeans, which are Illinois' most produced crops.



3683

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - On my flag I put deer, eagle, cardinal, and a butterfly because they are all state animals and they all look good.



3684

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in Illinois for my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bar on the left represents the Mississippi River that makes up the west border of Illinois, the red bar on the top is the color of the Chicago stars to represent Chicago and the northern cities, the yellow bar in the middle is to represent the cornfields of central Illinois, and the black bar at the bottom is to represent the oil and coal industries of southern Illinois. The orange butterfly is the color of a monarch butterfly which is the state insect.



3685

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived in Illinois all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Orange: color of state insect. White: one of the colors of the US national bird. The plant in the center is the Illinois state prairie grass: the big bluestem. Also, each of the five "wheat" parts represent 5 important things about our state. From the left to the right: State slogan: "Land of Lincoln", Nickname: "The Prairie State", State motto: "State Sovereignty, National Union", Year we became the 21st state: 1818, and lastly, first to ratify 13th amendment.



3686

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life and I plan to keep it that way. I grew up in Downers Grove, went to NIU, and most recently moved to Rockford. I love the variety of the state and the value that it provides. From skiing to art festivals to beaches to manufacturing Illinois really has whatever you could ask for.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has a blue boarder to represent the waterways that boarder the state including the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and Lake Michigan. The green represents open fields and native prairie lands which cover the landscape. The field of gold is for grain and the harvest. There is a central star which is divided to form an arrow. This evokes a sense of energy and represents that Illinois is always striving for progress.



3687

Relationship to Illinois

Ever since I was a kid, I've been proud to call Springfield my home. I come from generations of Illinoisans and have chosen to raise my family here as well. I've spent much of my life exploring the state and experiencing its wonders firsthand. What I've found is there is much to what makes Illinois great: our rich history, our landscape, our variety of people and the places they live. My designs reflect these qualities in a way that can hopefully inspire others to share my pride for my home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The outline of Abraham Lincoln symbolizes liberty, opportunity and the equality of all people. The blue circle around him represents the togetherness of our communities and our united vision for the future. The four blue stripes represent the Mississippi, Ohio, Wabash and Illinois Rivers. The six-pointed star symbolizes Chicago and its blue color represents the great Lake Michigan. Gold represents our rich farmland and agricultural history. White represents our bright spirit and positivity.

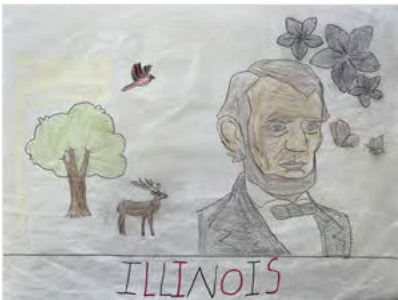
3688

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

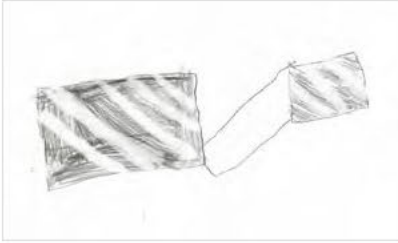
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The violets represent the beauty of our state flowers. Abraham Lincoln represents one of our Nation's greatest presidents who was from Illinois. The monarch butterfly is our state's insect. The white tail-deer is seen by all when in our state, as it is the Illinois state animal. The big oak trees are grown throughout our state. The cardinal is our state's bird.



3689

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Urbana to two University of Illinois professors and am now growing up in Chicago. I am five years old and I attend Suder Montessori, part of CPS, where one of our first lessons is about respecting ourselves, each other, and the environment.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag shows two colors, gray and white. Gray is kindness and white is care. The white spaces were created by erasing the gray, showing that the two feelings are intertwined. A detail to the right shows an area of the flag zoomed in.

3690

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Illinois and I have lived in it ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The thick blue stripe represents Lake Michigan, and the thinner blue stripe represents the Chicago River. The green stripe on the bottom represents the prairie that's found present throughout Illinois. The sun is inspired by the original state flag, symbolizing a bright future. Inside of the sun is a Bald Eagle, showing that Illinois governs itself under the government of the United States. The light yellow background shows that Illinois is a leading producer of corn.

3691

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois when I was 5 and have lived most my life here. Though the weather gets very cold in the winter and very hot in the summer, there is no other place I'd rather live. I am grateful for the great schools that we have in Illinois, allowing me as a first generation to college to be able to achieve a high quality and relatively cheap education. This state provides me with countless opportunities that I never would have had elsewhere.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag communicates the geographic features of Illinois through blue shapes, representing the major bodies of water that physically shape the boundaries of Illinois. The primary color of green is taken from the current flag of Illinois and is used to represent the agricultural and natural resources of Illinois. The flag features a focal point representing purity, and harmony between the major city, Chicago, and agricultural industry of Illinois

3692

Relationship to Illinois

My mother grew up in Crystal Lake. My Dad lived in Mattoon until he met my Mother in Chicago and then they both moved back to Crystal Lake to raise me. After growing up in Crystal Lake I went to school at the University of Illinois where my dad had also gone (it was the only school I applied to). After school I moved to Chicago and have lived here ever since. I love Illinois and I think that it deserves a thoughtful and intentional flag that represents its true beauty.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is meant to invoke the beauty of the horizon across the Illinois countryside. The diagonal blue stripe represents the Illinois river cutting through the landscape and the golden and green stripes representing the mixture of farm ("the green wave") and prairie land that covers the state across the spring, summer and fall. The sun that helps bring all of this to life sits in the sky and has 21 points to represent Illinois place as the 21st state.



3693

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I did this because the state bird is a cardinal and the state fish is a bluegill that is why I picked them and I also picked the state of Illinois because it is the state flag.



3694

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I did this because the state bird is a cardinal and the state fish is a bluegill that is why I picked them and I also picked the state of Illinois because it is the state flag.



3695

Relationship to Illinois

Being a first generation American, I was born and raised in Illinois and plan on completing all my education within the state as well. I've been a part of many communities within Illinois ranging from volunteering in the Chicago Marathon to supporting more rural areas in the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag contains green blue and yellow representing the agricultural element of Illinois as well as its relationship with lake Michigan. Some symbols include the state capitol building and willis tower to represent the city and rural parts of Illinois. Abraham Lincoln is showed in the center portraying "The Land of Lincoln" as well as 21 stars arching across the flag showing the Illinois being the 21st state. Finally the 13 waves on the lake represent the ratification of the 13th amendment.



3696

Relationship to Illinois

My parents both moved here in 1999 and have lived here ever since. I am a outstanding citizen I participate in sports and other events. And that I have also lived here my entire life and I also love to watch and play sports especially Illinois sports teams.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I took inspiration from what I think the 4 main sports teams are the Chicago bulls, the Chicago sky, the Chicago black hawks and the Chicago bears. I took insipation from these teams because I am a huge sports fan. This is the meaning behind my flag.



3697

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Albuquerque and raised in Indiana, I've navigated a mix of cultures and landscapes. Growing up in Northwest Indiana, I developed an appreciation for Midwestern values like hard work and community. Now, having moved to Illinois and attended the American Academy of Art in Chicago, I'm immersed in the city's vibrant energy and rich history. This transition feels like a natural progression, blending my past experiences with the creative opportunities that Illinois has to offer

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design incorporates elements from the original Illinois flag, featuring 21 stars to honor Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union. The classical arrangement of stars and stripes symbolizes American patriotism, while reflecting the unity that Illinois represents to me. By keeping the design simple, I aimed for a lasting impression that honors our history while maintaining a contemporary appeal.

3698

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in New York state, lived in Kentucky early in my childhood, but I've been an Illinois resident most of my life. Here in our state, I've visited many cities and landmarks such as the Lincoln museum, the Chicago big bean, tasted many typical foods (Chicago deep dish pizza and hotdog), and experienced many events such as the birth of my little sister. Furthermore, I believe it to be close to the beautiful state that is Illinois and would love to be a part of its history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

If you look at my design you may see elements of the current flag in the design like the colors. The olive branch symbolizes peace. The words written around the circle is the Illinois motto. The dates on it stand for when Illinois became a state and when the current seal was elected. The shield with the thirteen stars and bars represent the first states. The eagle represents the U.S. The farm and land (with corn, which is a large production in Illinois) represent Illinois prairie land and life.



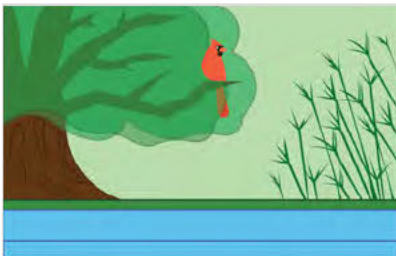
3699

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light green background of the flag is reflective of the colors of Illinois prairies, as it is known as the "Prairie State". The tree is the state tree, a white oak, and on it sits the state bird, a red cardinal. On the right end of the flag is bluestem grass, the official grass of Illinois, which is on top of the green stripe that represents grass found around the state. Finally, the thin blue stripe is meant to represent the Chicago River, and the large stripe Lake Michigan.



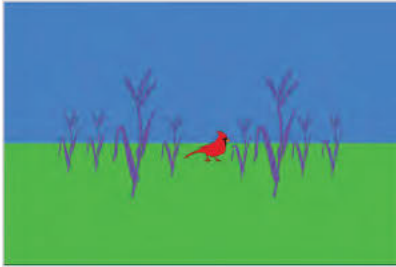
3700

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and was a cub scout and boy scout. I just love media design and decided to give it a shot.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue color and green color is a symbol of lake Michigan and our farmland, we're the Prairie state! The cardinal in the middle of this flag is our state bird. Then, we have our state grass, the Big Bluegrass! There are two different sizes, the big two, showing two hundred years of Illinois and the six small ones representing six years of Illinois, adding up to 206, the amount of years Illinois has been in the United States of America. The bluegrass's color represents violet, our state flower.



3701

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident and a social studies teacher at Holy Childhood School in Mascoutah, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my Illinois state flag design there are aspects from the current flag that I used as inspiration. The eagle was added to the design because it is the U.S. national bird. The olive branch that the eagle is holding was inspired by the current flag. The olive branch was meant to symbolize a time of war and peace. The Sun and water as well as the cornfield at the bottom were added to show that we are the prairie state. The year 1818 was put in the sun as a reminder that Illinois was founded in 18



3702

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

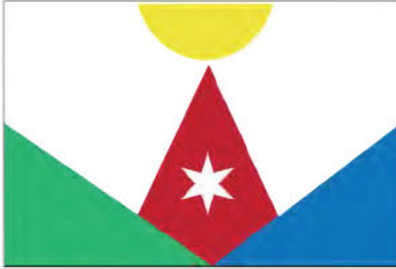
MMiller - For my flag I added the bald eagle as seen on the original flag. I also added the American flag in place of the sun. The violet surrounds the centerpiece as the state flower. The eagle does not have sunglasses on, that is just the side of his/her eye. I also added the corn as a representation of Illinois.



3703

Relationship to Illinois

Many think Illinois is an eccentric state when looking at the crazed weather and community. Yet, I only see it as home. A place I never want to leave and plan to be loyal to forever. When I think of Illinois, I think of family, friends, and countless memories with a strong community. A place that has made such an impact on me that I wouldn't be who I am without it. Having so much to offer, I plan to always repay Illinois in every way possible.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green triangle is for Illinois' Big Bluestem prairie grass and our agricultural industry. The blue triangle is for all the bodies of water that are a part of Illinois. With the red triangle as an ode to America's flag, showing hardiness & valor. As another ode to the American flag, the star shows Illinois's role as the 21st US state. The yellow semi circle is a rising sun for new futures for Illinois each day. Lastly, all 3 triangles portray the 3 regions of Illinois for all the people.

3704

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident at a social studies teacher at Holy Childhood School in Mascoutah, IL.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed the flag this way because the state colors are red, white, and blue. The words inside the circle are the state motto "State Sovereignty, National Union" The cardinal is the state bird and it is holding a branch of white oak. It is holding the white oak because it is the state tree. It represents the Illinois citizens because in 1907 schoolchildren chose the state tree and flower. This shows the citizens in the flag. The cardinal represents the state and the eagle represents the U.S.

3705

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident at a social studies teacher at Holy Childhood School in Mascoutah, IL.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed the flag this way because the state colors are red, white, and blue. The words inside the circle are the state motto "State Sovereignty, National Union" The cardinal is the state bird and it is holding a branch of white oak. It is holding the white oak because it is the state tree. It represents the Illinois citizens because in 1907 schoolchildren chose the state tree and flower. This shows the citizens in the flag. The cardinal represents the state and the eagle represents the U.S.

3706

Relationship to Illinois

Many think Illinois is an eccentric state when looking at the crazed weather and community. Yet, I only see it as home. A place I never want to leave and plan to be loyal to forever. When I think of Illinois, I think of family, friends, and countless memories with a strong community. A place that has made such an impact on me that I wouldn't be who I am without it. Having so much to offer, I plan to always repay Illinois in every way possible.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green triangle is for Illinois' Big Bluestem prairie grass and our agricultural industry. The blue triangle is for all the bodies of water that are a part of Illinois. With the red triangle as an ode to America's flag, showing hardiness & valor. As another ode to the American flag, the star shows Illinois's role as the 21st US state. The yellow semi circle is a rising sun for new futures for Illinois each day. Lastly, all 3 triangles portray the 3 regions of Illinois for all the people.

3707

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design celebrates Illinois' history and unity. The yellow eight-pointed star symbolizes the state's guiding spirit and its place as the 8th state to join the Union from the Northwest Territory. The star signifies hope, progress, and leadership. The white upper section embodies the state's diverse landscapes and the promise of a bright future. The blue lower section honors the state's rivers, essential to trade and culture.



3708

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a resident in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white color represents the snow that Illinois brings us during the winter. The red eagle represents the liberty of the state. The blue color represents the rain that the fall brings us. The flag represents the diverse nature of Illinois.



3709

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I made this flag to resemble Illinois because the state animal is a white-tailed deer. I put lots of thought into it and it not only represents Illinois but America as a whole.



3710

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident and social studies teacher at Holy Childhood School in Mascoutah, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Lincoln, was from Springfield, Illinois. Due to his dedication in fighting for America, I choose to put him on the my flag. Also, the colors for Illinois are referred to as navy and orange. The 6 sided star stands for the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. Its six points represent the virtues of religion, education, aesthetics, justice, beneficence, and civic pride. Under Lincoln, it states that Illinois is the 21st state.



3711

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason for my design is to represent the state flower (violets). The white oak tree and the red cardinal. The flag contains the cardinal, white oak tree, a violet flower, the American flag and the sun.



3712

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident and a social studies teacher at Holy Childhood School in Mascoutah, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On the top, I put Illinois because it shows that it is the Illinois state flag and the Land of Lincoln because we are the land of Lincoln. The white tailed deer because it is the state animal of Illinois. 1818 is when Illinois was established. And two faded Abraham Lincolns to represent that we again are the Land of Lincoln.



3713



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, as were my parents and grandparents.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the green represents prairie grass, the blue represents the Mississippi river, the yellow represents the cornfields, the star represents Chicago, and the hawk represents the black hawk war

3714



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of Caleb, a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag involves the state name on the 12th stripe of the flag. It also involves the state animal (white-tailed deer) and the state tree (white oak). I used part of the American flag to give a pop of color to the flag. The scene in the middle is showing a big white-tailed buck standing in front of trees and a hill. It also contains the landforms found in Illinois.

3715



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of Bentley, a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is a mixture of our state fish, insect, saying, crop, etc. It also has an American flag (I am a flag raiser) and a little bit of the old design. I also included Abe Lincoln's top hat.

3716

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of Isabella, a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My description for my flag is I did our country bird, I also did our state flower and tree. I also did our 16th President because that's what our state is known for.



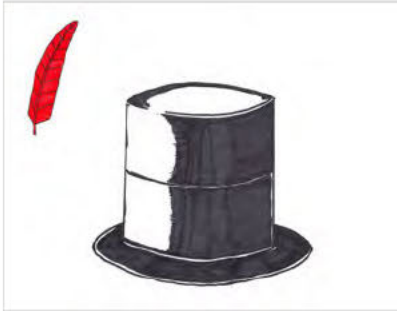
3717

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong Illinois resident that has earned two college degrees from the state's Moody Bible Institute (Communications) and Columbia College Chicago (Art/Design) degrees - the latter cum laude.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Nothing unites Illinois like President Abraham Lincoln, whose simple top hat is an image known worldwide. The Northern Cardinal is the State Bird. This feather also references Illinois's indigenous tribes, and is based on an amalgamation of native angular feathers. The feather features 21 black lines in total (counting the tip), hewing to Illinois's standing as the 21st State. This feather's interior lines reference Prairie School window grids. Red/black are indicative of regional sports teams.



3718

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised, attended school, and currently living in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose to use the state bird, a cardinal, and the state flower, a violet. The wings has 10 and 11 feathers, totaling to 21 to represent we were the 21st state, which happened in August of 1818. There are 8 feathers in the tail for the month and the year is found on the banner. I chose to mimic the banner from the original flag to honor it. 1837 was the year Springfield became the official capital. "Bound to be true" is from a speech Lincoln gave in Peoria, IL.



3719

Relationship to Illinois

After nearly a decade in Illinois, I've come to feel truly at home here. The vibrant culture and diverse communities have shaped my experiences and created lasting friendships. I cherish the changing seasons, from summer festivals to snowy winters, each bringing unique joys. Illinois has not just been a place to live; it's woven into my identity. As I reflect on my journey, I realize that this state is where I belong, filled with memories and a deep sense of community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features a prominent six-point star at its center, symbolizing the eagle from our previous design, reflecting our heritage. Its gold color signifies the state's significance. Surrounding the star are 20 smaller stars, representing Illinois as the 21st state. This arrangement also evokes the top view of Abraham Lincoln's hat. A blue stripe represents Lake Michigan, illustrating the harmony between our sky, lake, and fertile land.

3720

Relationship to Illinois

I have been living in Chicago for 7 years and now find myself to be a lifelong resident. I have a strong sense of midwestern identity as I've spent my whole life in the region.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The overall design of the flag represents a cutout of the Illinois state in a more simpler form while still referencing the current state flag. The flag's green field symbolizes the state's prairie soil. The grey band represents our strong manufacturing sector and railroad center. The blue represents Lake Michigan with a golden star for the rising east sun. The golden star in the grey represents Chicago. The next two stars represent the state's capitol, Springfield, along with President Lincoln.

3721



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of Jersey, a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -This flag says Illinois because that is our state. It says Land of Lincoln because that is Illinois state motto. Then the flag has a cardinal sitting on a white oak tree because that is our state tree and our state bird. Then there is a white tailed deer because that is our state animal. Finally there is a monarch butterfly sitting on a blue violet because that is our state and flower.

3722



Relationship to Illinois

After nearly a decade in Illinois, I've come to feel truly at home here. The vibrant culture and diverse communities have shaped my experiences and created lasting friendships. I cherish the changing seasons, from summer festivals to snowy winters, each bringing unique joys. Illinois has not just been a place to live; it's woven into my identity. As I reflect on my journey, I realize that this state is where I belong, filled with memories and a deep sense of community.

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3723



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of Aleaha, a student at Ewing Grade School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I picked an eagle because it has the eagle holding a flag and the red bird and an Illinois state.

3724

Relationship to Illinois

After nearly a decade in Illinois, I've come to feel truly at home here. The vibrant culture and diverse communities have shaped my experiences and created lasting friendships. I cherish the changing seasons, from summer festivals to snowy winters, each bringing unique joys. Illinois has not just been a place to live; it's woven into my identity. As I reflect on my journey, I realize that this state is where I belong, filled with memories and a deep sense of community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The redesigned flag modernizes the iconic eagle, making it more memorable. The blue stripe represents the renowned Lake Michigan, a key symbol of our state, while also reflecting the separation of sky and land from the previous design. At the center, a six-point star symbolizes the unity of all Illinois residents, drawing from Chicago's iconic design. This combination honors our heritage while presenting a fresh and recognizable identity for the state.

3725

Relationship to Illinois

Hello, my name is [REDACTED] and I was born and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I am 10 years old.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed this flag with the state capital and the largest city in the state, Chicago. I also put the state flower, the blue violet. The main theme of my flag is fireworks, as I believe this state is full of excitement and should be celebrated. As with the dollar bill, I added "In God We Trust". The state outline is in the center of the flag.



3726

Relationship to Illinois

Hello, my name is [REDACTED] and I was born and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I am 10 years old.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed this flag to celebrate the great many cities in our state as well as the year it was founded. The main theme of my flag is fireworks, as I believe this state is full of excitement and should be celebrated. As with the dollar bill, I added "In God We Trust". The state outline is in the center of the flag. At each corner I put yellow four yellow stars to mirror the four stars of the Chicago flag.



3727

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A cardinal wearing Abe Lincoln's hat... enough said!



3728

Relationship to Illinois

16 years ago I adopted the great state of Illinois as my home. I've traveled extensively throughout the state experiencing everything from small towns to the metropolis I live in. I've witnessed the stark contrast in rural farmland of the prairie and towering sky scrapers of the cities. I've also seen the unity of the people who define the hard working resilience and incredible warm personality of the midwest. I love it here and am honored to submit my design for the state flag of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Prairie Sunrise. Central feature is a 12 pointed star representing the 12 tribes of the Illiniwek Confederation. The sun rising as optimism over the green Prairie State with a city silhouette on horizon and subtle letters IL. Shows the unity of industry and agriculture. The blue is The Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash Rivers, and the top right corner is Lake Michigan. All helped build and define our state. 6 point star inside for the great city of Chicago.

3729

Relationship to Illinois

I am 47 years old and was born in & reside in Bellville, IL & have lived in Illinois most of my life (minus 4 years of college & a brief career as a pro football player). I would like to add that I lived briefly in & have had several football teammates that were from TX & they were all very proud of their state and it centered around their flag. Our state needs a new symbol of patriotism and state pride. I designed this flag to appear as if it is flying and would love to see it take flight.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Unity. Fleur de lis/arrowhead represent peace & compromise between the French & Native Americans. Illinois is the 21st state-21 stripes as cardinal's wings (state bird) carrying/protecting joined and meet at one central point in the middle-Illinois. A simple design as opposed to my other submission (Flowing Eagle's wings) the cardinal's wings project straight outwardly as light, symbolizing Illinois as a beacon of compromise, and unity.

3730

Relationship to Illinois

Resident!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design reflects Illinois' history and spirit. The navy background for the deep star nights in rural Illinois, the light blue stripe or river passing through the state. The six-pointed star in the top left symbolizes Illinois' place as the sixth state that formed from the Northwest Territory. The orange arrow signifies forward momentum and innovation, celebrating the state's drive for new opportunities.



3731

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. I have moved around Chicago since I was little. I lived on the west side of the south side and the east side as well. I have a love hate relationship with Illinois, the police killed one of my cousins We gather every year to celebrate him, but since his mom passed we don't do that anymore. Chicago has also been a place that I call home but as of lately it hasn't been feeling like home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The state's flag was inspired by the world's war in 1893, as well as modesty and humility. The white tailed deer is the state's animal, it can jump up to 8 feet high, it is the only state deer. I Chose blue as my background, because it represents our huge body of water Mrs. James C. Fessler of Rochelle suggested to state officials that the children of illinois should vote for a state tree, and they selected the white oak tree. I put 21 stars on the since there were the 21st state



3732

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and lived there my whole life. I also got to go to different places where I haven't been since I love exploring every part of the Illionio's, also I take pictures for memories so that I can remember where I went and can go back and visit. Also I like the food because that's my favorite thing to do. I like trying new things like going to the lake because me and my whole family used to go there and do some cookouts with friends.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first design element is the light blue background. I chose this color for the background to represent Lake Michigan, and allude to the Chicago flag. The sides of the corner are going to be lilac Violet. I choose this color, it represents a flower of the illions. First violet flower to get chosen from four states. Stars are 21 and became the 21st U.S state. The Raccoon can be found statewide in Illinois. Next, 1818 The 21st member of the union on december 3, 1818.



3733

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago where the birds are yelling and the sky is bright. I enjoy the times I went to the park and seeing the squirrels fighting over an acorn. Chicago is a very weird place. One day it can be calm and peaceful, then it can be the most dangerous place in the world. I love living in Chicago. It shows that you should work with what you got and never give up. Overall Illinois is where people get with their family and peers and build a good bond

Explain the meaning behind your flag

marnock butterfly:the state insect eagle: it represent illinoisred cardinal: the state bird water to represent lake Michigan popcorn: the state snack



3734

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in the state of Illinois my whole life, but more importantly Chicago. I haven't traveled to other parts of Illinois but I do know that none of them can compete with Chicago. I did go out of state once a couple years ago, I went to Atlanta then drove to Alabama. And it's extremely different out there, if you talk to any older person I promise they would have a somewhat controversial story to tell. But I could never truly leave Chicago behind because nothing else comes close to it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My first element is the gold rush apple, I chose this fruit because it's native to our state. My second one is a white oak tree, I wanted my flag to represent the tree that's beautiful and native to Illinois. I also chose the purple violet because it's our state flower and it has a very unique, and delicate appearance. I decided to add a northern Cardinal because it's our state bird and it was decided by school children. The last one I added is a white tailed deer for its cute appearance.



3735

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] I was born and raised on the south side of Chicago. The state of Illinois to me is a state of good fortune and opportunities. This to me is because of how homey it feels wherever you go in Illinois. Illinois is also a state that I feel the most connection with because of me growing up here in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

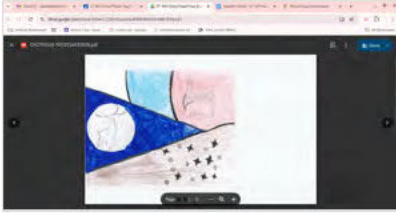
The white tailed deer represents the state's animal. The grass represents the natural resources and agriculture in Illinois. The Great Lakes represent a natural resource and a big body of water in Illinois. The star represents 80% of farm land, the 13th amendment, diversity, the people, and Chicago. Dark background represents steadfastness and stability.



3736

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] and my relationship with IL is very great. I was born here in a hospital on [REDACTED], it was during a hard winter that month. I've lived my whole life as of so far near [REDACTED]. I currently attend Intrinsic High School Downtown Campus, but i'm currently a junior.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

i choose this color because to me it resembles the outdoor and trails and the land it can hold outside of the city. While it being mushed in it has its own unique scenes he reason i used the color sky blue is because it resembles the lake's we have and how open and it's many uses we have for iiThe reason I used these shapes is because I wanted to make the flag look more unique but while keeping it neat and not too loud with colors and designs. But I wanna make it eye-catching so people can admi

3737

Relationship to Illinois

Hello I am [REDACTED], I was born in the fabulous city of Chicago. I am a junior In high school. And I attend Intrinsic high school. A relationship I have with my state is living near [REDACTED] or as most people call it the [REDACTED] mall. I have also moved to many different homes and schools. Which I didn't like because I didn't want to leave the good friends I have made throughout my years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose this color for the background to represent Lake Michigan, and allude to the Chicago flag. Lake Michigan is the biggest body of water in the State of Illinois. I chose this background color because it symbolizes the brown eagle that represents the freedom and strength we have. I chose this background because it symbolizes, Perseverance. My third element is going to be 50 stars to represent all the states. I chose red because it represents valor and Bravery. I chose pink to show love.

3738

Relationship to Illinois

This submission comes from Mary Williams and brothers Matt and Dave Brusich. Mary is a longtime Illinois resident who volunteers as a wayfinder at O'Hare airport and a greeter who gives city walking tours. Matt and Dave are lifetime state residents who both graduated from UIUC. Dave contracts with IDOT, Illinois Tollway, CDOT, and other state agencies as a civil engineer, and Matt is a healthcare IT professional at UI Health. Mary is Matt's mother-in-law; all three happily reside in Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green backdrop is inspired by the colorful prairie land. At center is an array of 12 ears of yellow corn, representing both the crop long associated with Illinois agriculture and the 12 original tribes of the Illinois Confederation. A 21-pointed star commemorates Illinois as the 21st state in the Union, white conveying past prosperity, future innovation, and optimism. The blue framing represents the state's boundaries: the Mississippi River, Lake Michigan, and the Wabash / Ohio Rivers.

3739

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here for nearly 10 years and have grown to love this state. It's an excellent place to settle down, with welcoming people who have always made me feel at home. From stunning city views to beautiful countryside, my appreciation for this state has deepened.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The redesign aims to modernize while preserving key elements, the sunrise over Lake Michigan, symbolizing hope and renewal. The circular shape represents an abstract view of Abraham Lincoln's hat, honoring our state's heritage. It illustrates the separation and convergence of sky, lake, and land, reflecting our environment's harmony. The six point star, traditionally linked to Chicago, signifies our state's unique identity and recognition. Making it out sand from other state's starts.

3740

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with the state of Illinois is how I was born here. Even though I have lived here all my life, I have moved three times. I have lived near Cicero, Portage Park, and the neighborhood I live in now West Humboldt Park. When moving three times you also have to switch schools as well. I went to four different schools.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose light blue for the background to represent Lake Michigan, and allude to the Chicago flag. I want to put an eagle because it represents the USA as a whole. The color navy blue on the American flag represents vigilance, perseverance and justice. I would like to put the Illinois shield to represent the 13 colonies. I would like to put this to honor Lincoln's noble vision, statesmanship, humanity and political skill. Also I would like to put grass and rocks; it is not only tall buildings



3741

Relationship to Illinois

I am a natural born citizen who has lived in this state for my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

the flower in the middle of the flag. This represents the Illinois state flower. the stars surrounding the flower. The 21 stars represent that Illinois is the 21st state to be made. Also on the American flag it has 50 stars to represent the 50 states. The color of the flag behind the flower. The colors behind the flower represent the color of the American flag. On the American flag the colors red represent bravery, and blue representing justice. the state bird.



3742

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Chicago, Illinois. I have never lived anywhere else. I have only moved out 1 time but that was still in Chicago. For my flag I have selected 5 different things that represent Illinois. For my first one I selected a white-tailed deer because it is one of the animals that represents Illinois. Along with that animal I picked the cardinal because that is also one of the animals that represents Illinois. And the other things like the white oak tree, the 21 stars around the middle circle,

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white-tailed deer represents the state animal, 21 stars represent the 21st state, the oak tree represents the state tree, the purple background represents the state flower.

3743

Relationship to Illinois



This submission comes from Mary Williams and brothers Matt and Dave Brusich. Mary is a longtime Illinois resident who volunteers as a wayfinder at O'Hare airport and a greeter who gives city walking tours. Matt and Dave are lifetime state residents who both graduated from UIUC. Dave contracts with IDOT, Illinois Tollway, CDOT, and other state agencies as a civil engineer, and Matt is a healthcare IT professional at UI Health. Mary is Matt's mother-in-law; all three happily reside in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

At center is an array of 21 ears of yellow corn, representing both the crop long associated with Illinois agriculture and Illinois as the 21st state in the Union. A six-pointed star pays tribute to the six capitol buildings that have housed the state government. The color white throughout represents past prosperity, future innovation, and optimism. The blue framing is emblematic of the state's boundaries: the Mississippi River, Lake Michigan, and the Wabash / Ohio Rivers.

3744

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Southern Illinois. After living outside the state for about a decade (of college, Peace Corps, and grad school), I returned in 2016 and have lived in Chicago ever since. My parents, too, are life-long Illinoisans. All of my grandparents, and I believe all of my great-grandparents, were also born in Illinois. My family's log cabin, built sometime around 1860, was a historical site in Southern Illinois until earlier this year when it was razed.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The scarlet chevron on the hoist end represents the crest on the cardinal's head. It also roughly traces the outline of Illinois (seen backwards on the obverse). The five vertical stripes on the fly represent stalks of prairie grass, one for each of the Illiniwek tribes. Taken together, they also form a (vertical) musical staff as a nod to Chicago jazz. The yellow is corn and dry wheat; the brown is drummer soil, Illinois's most common.



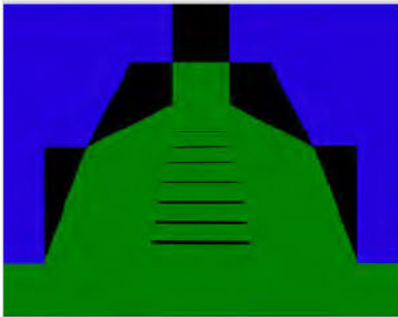
3745

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for the past nineteen years in the city of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green is for the prairies and fields which cover much of our state. Blue is for the waters which surround our state, including lake Michigan and the Ohio, Mississippi, and Wabash rivers. Black is for the industries and railroads which built the economy of our state. Imagery in the center represents the urban history of Illinois. The green step pyramid of old Cahokia; the black skyscrapers of Chicago. The black lines can be seen both as the pyramid steps or as a railroad crossing the prairie.



3746

Relationship to Illinois

This submission comes from Mary Williams and brothers Matt and Dave Brusich. Mary is a longtime Illinois resident who volunteers as a wayfinder at O'Hare airport and a greeter who gives city walking tours. Matt and Dave are lifetime state residents who both graduated from UIUC. Dave contracts with IDOT, Illinois Tollway, CDOT, and other state agencies as a civil engineer, and Matt is a healthcare IT professional at UI Health. Mary is Matt's mother-in-law; all three happily reside in Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

At center is an array of 12 ears of yellow corn, representing both the crop long associated with Illinois agriculture and the 12 original tribes of the Illinois Confederation. A 21-pointed star commemorates Illinois as the 21st state in the Union, green conveying the state's prairieland. The white background represents past prosperity, future innovation, and optimism. The blue framing is emblematic of the state's boundaries: the Mississippi River, Lake Michigan, and the Wabash / Ohio Rivers.

3747

Relationship to Illinois

Opportunity is what brought me to Illinois. My partner, who encouraged me to design these flags, and I moved to Chicago during the turmoil of the COVID pandemic in 2020. My partner started his residency, while I worked from home in a brand-new city. Although I come from a one-stoplight-town in South Arkansas, I now work as a designer in Downtown Chicago. We moved to Illinois not only for work opportunities but also for the opportunity to live freely. I love the life and people IL has brought me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Prairie Shine to TomorrowView when traveling to IL: clear sky overlooking the prairie and cities shining; movement to a better tomorrowStar Points (top to right): Limitless Opportunity, Great leaders, Industry, the protection of its people (the point that IL stands on), Agriculture, CitiesBlue: Yesterday, the history that built IL, natural resources, rural IL, Lake MichiganGold: Today, riches, people, opportunity, urban & rural shine togetherWhite: Tomorrow, IL's unwritten story, urban IL

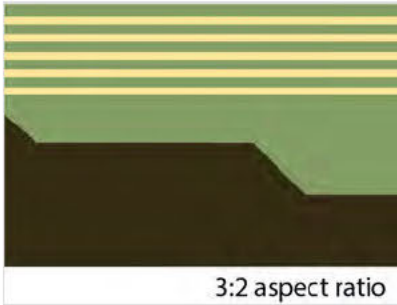
3748

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Southern Illinois. After living outside the state for about a decade (of college, Peace Corps, and grad school), I returned in 2016 and have lived in Chicago ever since. My parents, too, are life-long Illinoisans. All of my grandparents, and I believe all of my great-grandparents, were also born in Illinois. My family's log cabin, built sometime around 1860, was a historical site in Southern Illinois until earlier this year when it was razed.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is grounded by a side view of Monk's Mound, the largest pre-Columbian structure in the Americas. It is the color of drummer soil, Illinois's most common. The five horizontal stripes across the top represent stalks of prairie grass (turned sideways to better harmonize with the mound and to form a musical staff as a nod to Chicago jazz). Each can also be a symbol of an Illiniwek tribe. The green and yellow are the colors of Illinois's fields throughout the seasons.



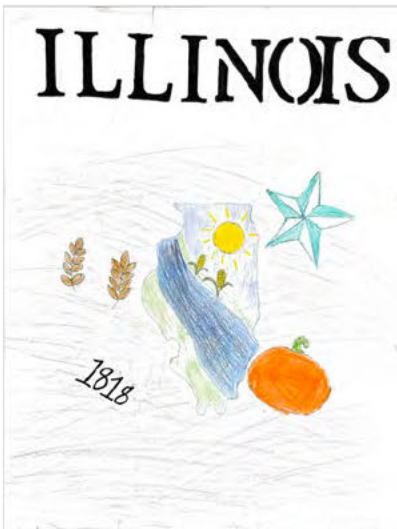
3749

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and I do sports and go to school here I love this state and I was happy to do a flag here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed this flag with the title at the top and very big so people so people would immediatly know that it is the illnois flag. I put a river on the flag because Illinois has a lot of rivers. I put a pumpkin on the flag because we have the pumpkin capital of the country, Morton, IL. I put 1818 on the flag because that is the year we became an official state in the US. I put



3750

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED] and I was born and raised in the southwest side of Chicago, in the state of Illinois. I've lived here my whole life so I would say my relationship with Illinois is very close. Although I haven't explored other towns and cities in Illinois, I consider this state to be my place of home. I hope as I get older, I'll be able to explore all the beauty that Illinois has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The overall concept of this flag presents a Northern cardinal, Illinois state bird, that soars in front of the rising sun. The sun behind the cardinal shows the glory of Illinois rising above a blue background. One thin blue across the flag represents the Illinois river while the other blue half of the bottom flag represents Lake Michigan.



3751

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Brian Dinter and I was born and raised in Illinois. I grew up predominately in Carol Stream but relocated to various cities such as Elk Grove Village, Schaumburg, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Chicago, and now I call Des Plaines home with my wife and two dogs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The insignia honors Illinois' heritage. The grain symbolizes the state's prairies, and the feather represents Native American tribes who first inhabited the land. A central star represents statehood in 1818, surrounded by 13 stars for Illinois' role as the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment. Dark blue signifies Lake Michigan, while the light diagonal blue band reflects the rivers crucial to Illinois' early development and commerce. Gold represents the state's nickname, "The Prairie State."



3752

Relationship to Illinois

I have grown up in Illinois my whole life in a rural town of barely 500 people, far away from any city.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is to represent in individuality of our mixing pot of a state. My four stars at left side of my flag show how similar things are but the colors give them their own personality. In my circle I have the Chicago skyscrapers and the Western fields with the Mississippi on the side. There is also a bald eagle and a one leg white take deer to show courageousness in our actions of moving forward and thriving.



3753

Relationship to Illinois

I have grown up here my whole life in a small town called Pearl City with barely 500 people.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My meaning behind my flag is evolution. This is represented by the four Municipal devices of Chicago the largest city in Illinois and one yellow star that shows another piece of history of evolution. Another piece of evolution is the bald eagle. This shows because the fear less eagle is traveling from one flag to the next and it persists to courageously move forward. These designs are all placed on a blue piece of paper to show confidence and wisdom in our actions.



3754

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived here for nearly 10 years and have grown to love this state. It's an excellent place to settle down, with welcoming people who have always made me feel at home. From stunning city views to beautiful countryside, my appreciation for this state has deepened.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A large gold star in the center draws attention, much like the standout features of our state. Gold color symbolizes out the richness in our state, people, land and views. A horizontal blue line symbolizes lake Michigan, separating the sky from the rich land. Two smaller lines add a neat, elegant touch. The central circle abstractly represents the view from above Abraham Lincoln's hat.



3755

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Brian Dinter and I was born and raised in Illinois. I grew up predominately in Carol Stream but relocated to various cities such as Elk Grove Village, Schaumburg, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Chicago, and now I call Des Plaines home with my wife and two dogs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A central star represents statehood in 1818, surrounded by 13 stars for Illinois' role as the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment. Dark blue signifies Lake Michigan, while the white flowing band of white reflects the rivers crucial to Illinois' development and commerce. Gold represents the state's nickname, "The Prairie State."





3756

Relationship to Illinois

Why Illinois is so important to me is because I was born here. I have never lived in another state, I have visited other states but never have I thought they were better than Illinois, it's perfect here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

when someone says illinois they should think about corn. chose a nice silhouette of Illinois and put the welcome to Illinois sign in it. Why I did this is because anytime I get back from vacation I am always so excited to see the sign because I'm at home.



3757

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived most of my life in Illinois, I grew up in Naperville (a suburb of Chicago) and now live, work and raise my own family in the City of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag contains 13 stripes, and while it can be considered a nod to our U.S. Flag it is meant to represent the 13th amendment which Illinois was the first state to ratify, it is also a crowning achievement for President Abraham Lincoln, which we are the "Land of Lincoln". It is an important fact about our great state and represents both unity and Lincoln, as an integral member of our country and state. The center white diamond with the star represents Ill. as a major hub and central state.



3758

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship with Illinois is that I was born there and lived there my whole life. I love the people in Illinois and the lake. Finally it's just an awesome environment to live in.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning for my flag is that each star is for a president that was from Illinois. Which are Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses Grant, Ronald Regan and Barack Obama. Finally the bird is the bird of Illinois the Northern cardinal.

3759

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2012 in Chicago. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I am very proud to live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have practiced designing flags in my Integrated Global Studies class at Highcrest Middle School. The color green on the top half of my flag represents the beautiful nature in Illinois. The color blue on the bottom half of my flag symbolizes the lakes and rivers in Illinois, such as Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, and the Chicago River. The cardinal in the middle illustrates the state bird of Illinois. And finally, the 4 stars in the corners are of the 4 presidents from Illinois.



3760

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue is for the bodies of water in Illinois (The Chicago River, Lake Michigan), The green is for all the agriculture and farmland in Illinois, the Maroon is for the people in Illinois, and the stars are for the Land of Lincoln.



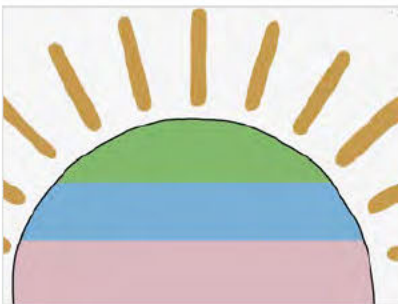
3761

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Avery and I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. Wilmette is a suburb outside Chicago. I have lived in Wilmette my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

1. I used a sun because it was originally in the first flag. 2. I used the green to represent nature and farms in Illinois. 3. I used the blue to represent Lake Michigan because it is one of the biggest lakes in the world. 4. I used pink because pink represents sweet/kind and people from Illinois are known for being very sweet and kind



3762

Relationship to Illinois

Opportunity is what brought me to Illinois. My partner, who encouraged me to design these flags, and I moved to Chicago during the turmoil of the COVID pandemic in 2020. My partner started his residency, while I worked from home in a brand-new city. Although I come from a one-stoplight-town in South Arkansas, I now work as a designer in Downtown Chicago. We moved to Illinois not only for work opportunities but also for the opportunity to live freely. I love the life and people IL has brought me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Star of the PrairieInspiration: The view traveling to IL: clear sky overlooking the prairie/forest/lake, cities rise in the distanceStar Points (top to right): Limitless Opportunity, Great leaders, Industry, the protection of its people (the point that IL stands on), Agriculture, CitiesBlue: Yesterday, the history that built IL, natural resources, rural IL, Lake MichiganGold: Today, riches, people, opportunity, urban & rural shine togetherWhite: Tomorrow, IL's unwritten story, urban IL

3763

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since 2012 when I was born. I lived in Chicago until I was four and then I moved to Wilmette and have lived here ever since. I go to school in Illinois and most of my family live in Illinois. I love Illinois and I think it deserves a great flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag I designed is meant to represent Illinois. The blue lines represent Lake Michigan and the horizontal line representing the Mississippi. The green on the top symbolizes beans that farmers grow in Illinois and the Yellow in the bottom symbolizes the corn farmers grow. The star in the center is meant to show the capitol of Illinois, Springfield and the importance it brings to the state because of Abraham Lincoln's house. The half circle is meant to be a sunrise and a new day and new hope.



3764

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Evanston, IL. I grew up in Arlington Heights, IL. I went to school at The University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana, IL. I now live in Chicago, IL. I have spent my whole life in Illinois. I like Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design explores the theme of rural and urban civilizations-past, present, and future. The star, inspired by the Chicago flag, symbolizes the city's importance. Inside is a stylized image of Monks Mound and its shadow from Cahokia Mounds, representing ancient civilizations. The 21 dark green stripes below signifying Illinois as the 21st state, resemble crop rows. The sky above, in mid-July hues, evokes the peak growing season and a forward-looking view of the horizon, representing the future.

3765

Relationship to Illinois

I was: born, go to school, and live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Red represents the struggle and the strength of the production of materials needed for the Civil War. Blue stands for authority because 4 US presidents came from Illinois, blue also represents sophistication because Illinois is sophisticated on growing vegetables and other major foods.



3766

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Brian Dinter and I was born and raised in Illinois. I grew up predominately in Carol Stream but relocated to various cities such as Elk Grove Village, Schaumburg, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates, Chicago, and now I call Des Plaines home with my wife and two dogs.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

At the bottom of the circle is a representation of our state flower with grain symbolizing our vast prairies and grasslands surrounded by the sun and 13 stars for Illinois' role as the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment and the dark blue signifies Lake Michigan.



3767

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in Chicago. I have also lived in Illinois for my whole life and I have gone to schools in Wilmette. I love everything about Illinois: the food, the music and the people. It's a really good place to live in. I also love that Illinois has so many different types of people it all comes together to make an amazing community. I learned about Illinois in 6th grade and about the previous flag. I was born in Illinois in Chicago. I have also lived in Illinois for my whole life and

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag symbolizes a few things so let me tell you some of them. First my flag's color is yellow which symbolizes the gold rush in the year 1849. And secondly my flag has the shield from the old flag which symbolizes the 13 amendment.



3768

Relationship to Illinois

I am a sixth grader in Wilmette and I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I am proud to live here and I know a lot of history about Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green triangle represents nature, and we have a lot of it. two thirds of Illinois is farmlands! The flowers on the green triangle are violets, the Illinois state flower. The blue strip stands for freedom, because we were fighting for the Union in the civil war, and because we were the first to sign the 13th Amendment, the bird depicts the same, freedom and peace. The stars on the white background show that Chicago, a major city, is in Illinois, and the big things that happened in Chicago.



3769

Relationship to Illinois

my relation ship was i was born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put a pumpkin on the flag because Illinois has the largest pumpkin acreage among all the states. I also put an ear of corn on my flag because Illinois is the second largest state to grow corn. I chose the color blue for the background color for my flag because it represents loyalty, peace, and stability



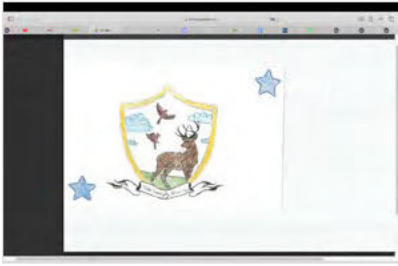
3770

Relationship to Illinois

Ever since I was little my mom would take me out for walks and sometimes we would go downtown and it was so nice and everything looked like it was from the future and I would always what it would be like to work downtown or live here waking up every morning to a beautiful sight of the buildings.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Each element that is displayed in my flag has its own meaning, The white-tailed deer and the Red Cardinal bird were both chosen by children in the 1980 and 1929, The shield represents the first threaten states, The color blue and the star mean perseverance, inspiration, Justice, and freedom, and the Ribbon means the State Sovereighnt, National Union.



3771

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and my parents lived there their whole life and I've lived in Illinois my whole life for 11 years. I love Illinois. My whole family lives there and we all love it very much. We hope to get chosen to recreate our state flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

One of the stars portrays how in 1824 slavery was abolished Another one of the stars depicts Lincoln's death Another star symbolizes the lives lost in the tri state tornado The final star represents the lives lost in ww1 and ww2



3772



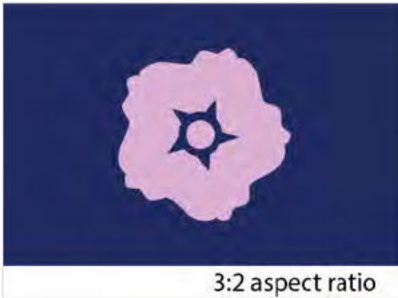
Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for most of my life. I go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I love the people in Illinois because they are friendly. The food is good because a lot of different people live here with different cultures and we have a lot of different foods. I learned a lot about Illinois in Integrated Global Studies class in 6th grade. I know the history of Illinois. I am very proud that I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The bell represents the liberty bell which also symbolizes the focus to abolish slavery which Illinois was first to sign to be abolished. The olive reef represents peace. The brown on the ground represents the soil in the fields where they farm. The cardinal stands for the state bird.

3773



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Southern Illinois. After living outside the state for about a decade (of college, Peace Corps, and grad school), I returned in 2016 and have lived in Chicago ever since. My parents, too, are life-long Illinoisans. All of my grandparents, and I believe all of my great-grandparents, were also born in Illinois. My family's log cabin, built sometime around 1860, was a historical site in Southern Illinois until earlier this year when it was razed.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag makes prominent use of the only plant endemic to Illinois alone, the endangered Kankakee Mallow (*Iliamna remota*). The five petals attach to the anthers in the center, forming a natural star. Illinois has historically been at the forefront of enlightened thinking. This flag would announce Illinois's commitment to conservation, the preservation of the planet for future generations, and the protection of all living beings, small and large.

3774

Relationship to Illinois

Opportunity is what brought me to Illinois. My partner, who encouraged me to design these flags, and I moved to Chicago during the turmoil of the COVID pandemic in 2020. My partner started his residency, while I worked from home in a brand-new city. Although I come from a one-stoplight-town in South Arkansas, I now work as a designer in Downtown Chicago. We moved to Illinois not only for work opportunities but also for the opportunity to live freely. I love the life and people IL has brought me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

America's Crown Jewel Inspiration: IL is the great bright gem at the center of the US between the two coasts. Star Points (top to right): Limitless Opportunity, Great leaders, Industry, the protection of its people (the point that IL stands on), Agriculture, Cities Blue: Yesterday, the history that built IL, natural resources, rural IL, Lake Michigan Gold: Today, riches, people, opportunity, urban & rural shine together White: Tomorrow, IL's unwritten story, urban IL

3775

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois for graduate school, where I attended the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. I fell in love with central Illinois and its spirit of community. It felt like the true heartland of America, where all of America's ideals and identities clash into one. I have since moved to Chicago and discovered a whole new Illinois, one razor focused on progress, innovation, and equality. And in May I changed my residency and am now one of Illinois' newest official residents.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is at its heart a representation of the Illinois motto: "State Sovereignty, National Unity". The flag is flanked on either side by two bright blue bars to represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, and likewise Illinois' two major metro areas, Chicago and St. Louis. Connecting the two is a field of violet (the traditional color of unity and Illinois' state flower). A large silver star in the middle represents Illinois' state sovereignty seated in Springfield under a silver dome.

3776

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Alice. I moved to Illinois when I was two years old, and have lived here in Wilmette, Illinois for ten years! The history of Illinois really inspired me to create this flag, since there are so many important events in history that have happened in Illinois. In my Integrated Global Studies class at Highcrest Middle School, we watched the TED talk about good flag design, which definitely helped guide me to making a good flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue symbolizes freedom, when Illinois became the first state to officially abolish slavery. The green star on the upper left corner represents Illinois being discovered in 1673 by explorer Louis Jolliet and Jesuit Father Jacques Marquette. The middle star floating over the blue represents the Baha'i Temple, the oldest one out of seven being located in Wilmette, Illinois. The third star, in the upper right corner portrays Illinois becoming the 21st state on December 3, 1818.

3777

Relationship to Illinois

I'm an Illinois citizen, born and raised. I am currently living in Chicago. I am in middle school and I'm about to go to high school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For the flag, blue stands for the Illinois River and the Mississippi (which borders Illinois), green stands for the expansive prairies (Illinois is called the prairie state), white stands for purity, and the sun stands for the life found in all the lands in Illinois.



3778



Relationship to Illinois

My name is Liam and I was born in Illinois and have lived here all my life. I also go to school in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is meant to represent how Illinois governs itself under the U.S. government under the state constitution. The yellow represents how people from Illinois are very friendly.



3779

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for 30+ years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Open field with a star where Chicago goes



3780

Relationship to Illinois

I was raised here and I did a research project on Illinois and learned a lot about are history. I also would love to help our state have a new flag and make history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I love red, white, and blue those colors mean bravery, justice, and peace. The shield is for are fights against everything that comes our way, we as a whole state can do anything together. The 2024 in the stripes on the shield is for when our new flag is made.

3781



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 7th grade student at Spring Wood Middle School in Hanover Park, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has the Illinois state flower which is a violet, and the state bird, a cardinal. I have also included The Bean (Cloud Gate) as well as Willis Tower and Trump Tower. I chose these particular things because these things are what makes our state beautiful and what it is today. I realized after that I accidentally wrote 10-03-1818 and I meant 12-3-1818. Hope it can be blocked out if needed. Thanks!

3782



Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Illinois for my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my integrated global studies class at Highcrest middle school, we watched Ted Talk about good flag design. The color orange and dark blue stands for the color of Illinois and its college and the cardinal is Illinois's state bird.

3783



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in 2013. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I love the people of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red stripe represents love, luck, and excitement. The orange stripe represents health, happiness, and friendliness. The words are important and represent Illinois. The cardinal represents our state bird. I took the shield with the 13 stars from the original Illinois state flag and remolded it to one star with red, white, and blue colors to represent the United States. American Indian is we respect their culture. The arm represents freedom of speech. It represents how we speak when we want.

3784

Relationship to Illinois

I live and work in this wonderful state and really enjoy spending time both in the city of Chicago and in the farmlands and prairie lands of this beautiful state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sun's color is based on the sun on display during Chicagohenge and the sun we all see. The flag is oriented around a blue diagonal stripe that represents the Illinois river and our incredible waterways, cutting from the Mississippi to the southwest to Lake Michigan to the Northeast. surrounding the blue stripe are our fertile prairie lands under the golden stripe which represents our corn while also highlighting the beautiful golden color of the winter prairie before a snowy background.



3785

Relationship to Illinois

I lived here from 1986 to 1989, and I have lived here since 1997.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Three fields: blue, white, & green. The white field has a golden six-pointed star w/ a crimson banner with "1818" --the year Illinois was admitted to the Union. The blue signifies the water boundaries of Illinois: the Mississippi, Lake Michigan, and the Wabash & Ohio Rivers. The green signifies the beauty of the land. The six-pointed star (similar to Chicago's flag's red ones) symbolizes harmony between rural and urban parts of the state. The banner is a nod to the original flag.



3786

Relationship to Illinois

I am not from Illinois and have not visited the state but I love flags and what they represent. I decided to research the state and found it to be very interesting and educational. I would have to say that after my research I have found that the state has so much to offer and a rich history which is what I based my design on.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two dark blue bars on the sides represent the state's border with the Mississippi River to the west and Lake Michigan to the east. The scales in the center represent the state's spirit of justice.



3787

Relationship to Illinois

Current resident and citizen in Oak Park, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The purple used is the CMYK code for violet, the state flower. The green is the CMYK for "Prairie Green", which represents the state's moniker "The Prairie State". The blue, which is "River Blue" is representative of the first lyric of the state song which reads "By thy rivers gently flowing, Illinois, Illinois". It also references the state's proximity to Lake Michigan. Lincoln for the "Land of Lincoln", and a 21 pointed star to represent our status as the 21st state added to the United States



3788

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and I like all the things about Illinois. I like how there are many different places throughout Illinois even though I never really been anywhere else except Chicago but I also like Chicago because of all the things you can do far as going to see the Bean downtown or going to the taste of Chicago and so many more things.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Cardinal-I chose this element because it's the state bird of Illinois, Common blue violet-I chose this flower because it's the state flower of Illinois, Chicago river-I chose this river because it's a major river and it's used for navigation, orange-I chose this color because UOI



3789

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I attended college for four years in another state, but moved back to Illinois upon graduation, and have lived in Chicago for the past decade. I fully intend to live in Illinois for my entire life. My great grandparents immigrated to Chicago at the beginning of the 20th century, and my family has remained in the Chicagoland area ever since.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The purple coneflower is a beautiful symbol for Illinois, the Prairie State. The bright purple would create a striking and unique visual. A golden field represents the amber waves of grain of the state's farmers. The bottom half features a blue semicircle on a green field, representing the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers forming our southern border. The top half's green semicircle on the blue field looks like one of the Cahokia Mounds against a field of deep blue for the Union.

3790

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived most of my life in Illinois, I grew up in Naperville and suburb of Chicago and now I work, live and raise my own family in the city of Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois' geography is flat, the 3 color blocks are shown horizontally to represent the uninterrupted horizon and the divisions of the state: Northern, Central, and Southern. We are nicknamed the Prairie State, and a central agriculture hub, represented by the generic stalk, shown in a style related to Frank Lloyd Wright (world heritage site). The stalk symbol is also styled to represent the Willis Tower Spears, or a skyscraper, Chicago being a global city. Star and shield are nods from original

3791



Relationship to Illinois

We live in Illinois and are members of NAVA. This submission is for my 12-year-old daughter's design and she has lived here her entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white diamond represent the rough shape of Illinois, with the bold left side representing the Mississippi River. The 6-pointed stars represent Chicago. The blue represents skies. The green and yellow represent agriculture and farming.

3792



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Elgin, I'm a true son of Illinois. I spent summers on my grandparents' sun-drenched farm in Roanoke. Autumn weekends found us camping at Starved Rock. Winter brought sledding at Wing Park. Spring meant field trips to Chicago. My childhood gave me a true appreciation of the full beauty of Illinois, from sweeping cornfields to stunning architecture. I studied graphic design at UIUC and now I work for Meyers Creative in Chicago, elevating the brands of local Illinois businesses.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Endless Possibility: The night sky shimmers over the prairie state's golden fields, representing promise and opportunity to those who call Illinois home. The 20 small stars with one larger star (representing the 21st state) is a nod to the Illinois Centennial flag. The four horizontal stripes stand for the four words of the state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union."

3793

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Midwesterner who has lived in Illinois since 2017 where my wife and I are proudly raising our two children. We enjoy exploring all parts of our beautiful state whether it be Shawnee National Forest, the rolling hills of Jo Daviess County, the charming cities and towns of Central Illinois, or the world-class museums of Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag depicts the sun rising over the prairie among a constellation of stars. There are 20 stars, representing the 20 states admitted to the Union before Illinois, and the sun represents Illinois as the 21st. The 18 sun rays reference our year of statehood, 1818. The wavy lines represent the three great rivers: the Mississippi, Ohio, and Illinois. The design is also meant to evoke the national flag, a nod to our state motto: "State Sovereignty, National Union."

3794

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue Represents: Mississippi, Fox, and Ohio Rivers. The green Represents Illinois' prairies and flat lands. The 3 white stars represents the three largest cities in Illinois (by population): Chicago, Aurora, Joliet. The Yellow Star represents Corn, Illinois' state food.



3795

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag uses a laurel wreath of the state tree leaves, white oak, with a centerpiece of the state bird, the cardinal. The typeface for Illinois is Copperplate, reminding me of the copper pennies with Lincoln's image.



3796



Relationship to Illinois

We live in Illinois and are members of NAVA. This submission is for my 12-year-old daughter's design and she has lived here her entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white diamond represent the rough shape of Illinois, with the bold left side representing the Mississippi River. The 6-pointed stars represent Chicago. The blue represents skies.

3797



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Elgin, I'm a true son of Illinois. I spent summers on my grandparents' sun-drenched farm in Roanoke. Autumn weekends found us camping at Starved Rock. Winter brought sledding at Wing Park. Spring meant field trips to Chicago. My childhood gave me a true appreciation of the full beauty of Illinois, from sweeping cornfields to stunning architecture. I studied graphic design at UIUC and now I work for Meyers Creative in Chicago, elevating the brands of local Illinois businesses.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A new day: The sunrise represents opportunity and promise. The scalloped sunburst draws inspiration from the stylized sun on the current Illinois flag. The 21 rays represent the 21st state. The green band represents the Prairie State, a fertile land in which one can grow and thrive.



3798

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and have lived there my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I included the shield to keep signification from the old flag. The sun, grass, and lake represent the main properties of the climate of Illinois. I added the state animals too.

3799

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, IL and am a current Chicago resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design takes visual cues from the Chicago flag. The six-pointed star in the top right symbolizes Chicago, the industrial and economic center of the state. The light blue stripe alongside the dark blue field symbolizes the Mississippi river alongside the entirety of one side of the state. Visually, the flag inspires an image of a red star shining over a land bordered by water.



3800

Relationship to Illinois

For most of my formative years, I was a proud resident of Chicago and an explorer of the entire state of Illinois, riding my bicycle all over the state, from Naval Station Great Lakes all the way to Cairo * not in one trip! * and many places in between. I had to move for a once-in-a-lifetime career opportunity, but hope to call Illinois home again soon * I fell in love in Chicago, my son was born at Northwestern, and much of my family and close friends continue to call Illinois home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design takes one of the uniquely Illinois symbols in the current flag * a sunrise over Lake Michigan (or the Ohio, or your own favorite Illinois body of water), simplifies it, and imbues it with additional symbolic meaning:-a ring of 21 stars for the 21st state-a 16-pointed star for the Land of Lincoln-a 12-pointed star for the 12 tribes of the Illinois confederation, and a nod to the cornflower, and, when halved, six points for Chicago.-at center, the dome of the statehouse





3801

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's a cardinal our state bird, the Sears/Willis Tower in Chicago , corn which grows all over Illinois, and President Lincoln's hat because Illinois is the land of Lincoln.

3802

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Elgin, I'm a true son of Illinois. I spent summers on my grandparents' sun-drenched farm in Roanoke. Autumn weekends found us camping at Starved Rock. Winter brought sledding at Wing Park. Spring meant field trips to Chicago. My childhood gave me a true appreciation of the full beauty of Illinois, from sweeping cornfields to stunning architecture. I studied graphic design at UIUC and now I work for Meyers Creative in Chicago, elevating the brands of local Illinois businesses.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Fields of Gold: The 21 stars on the star-spangled hoist represent the 21st state. The 7 gold & white stripes on the fly represent the Illinois values of (1) agriculture & industry, (2) education & opportunity, (3) arts & culture, (4) parks & nature, (5) family & community, (6) faith & purpose, and (7) liberty & justice.



3803

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Des Plaines, IL and went to college in Central Illinois. I've lived in the state for 24 years until moving away for graduate school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe symbolizes the Illinois River, which connects the industrial cities in Northern Illinois with the agricultural lands in the West and South. The river crosses barriers of class and culture that otherwise keep the constituents of the state separated. The three stars represent the three historic capitals of Illinois: Kaskaskia, Vandalia and Springfield. The white background symbolizes peace and prosperity across the state. The overall design is based on the Illinois Centennial Flag.



3804

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student in Wilmette, IL. I have grown up here and I have had my biggest accomplishments and falls here too. My life here has been amazing and I feel that Illinois is diverse, welcoming, and kind. I have moved 3 times and every time the kids have been welcoming and I always have felt I belong. I didn't know about this before but because of my integrated global studies, It would be an honor to be able to have my creation be the Illinois flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The color red is supposed to resemble strength and bravery. The color blue is supposed to mean truth and loyalty. And the color yellow is supposed to represent freedom. All these colors represent the diverse community and the welcoming colors that make each other pop. The olive branch ring symbolizes peace and freedom, The big streak of blue represents justice and how it feels welcoming and calm.



3805

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, IL and am a current Chicago resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark blue field in the bottom-left of the design represents the fertile soil of Illinois. The golden stripe alongside it represents the corn and wheat crops of the state. The lighter blue stripe then represents the Mississippi River which borders our state. The red six-pointed star is a nod to Chicago, the economic center of the state, and serves to also help the overall design to illustrate a landscape.



3806

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for more than four years. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I am so, so, so proud to live in Illinois. I have learned about Illinois in Integrated Global Studies class. I love the history of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my Integrated Global Studies class at Highcrest Middle School, we watched the TED talk about food flag design. In my flag I have blue stripes on my flag because blue represents freedom and Illinois wanted freedom for everyone when people were enslaved. I also have a cardinal on my flag because the Cardinal is an Illinois state bird. The yellow symbolizes friendliness. In my research I found out that people in Illinois are known for being friendly.



3807

Relationship to Illinois

For most of my formative years, I was a proud resident of Chicago and an explorer of the entire state of Illinois, riding my bicycle all over the state, from Naval Station Great Lakes all the way to Cairo * not in one trip! * and many places in between. I had to move for a once-in-a-lifetime career opportunity, but hope to call Illinois home again soon * I fell in love in Chicago, my son was born at Northwestern, and much of my family and close friends continue to call Illinois home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag riffs on the sunrise motif in the current flag, showing a sun design taken from the stained glass in the Statehouse dome, on a Canadian Pale, representing its procession between the two bodies of water that border Illinois on the east and west. The sun is ringed by 21 stars, to represent the 21st state.

3808

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for more than four years. I live and go to school in Wilmette, Illinois. I am so, so, so proud to live in Illinois. I have learned about Illinois in Integrated Global Studies class. I love the history of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my Integrated Global Studies class at Highcrest Middle School, we watched the TED talk about food flag design. In my flag I have blue stripes on my flag because blue represents freedom and Illinois wanted freedom for everyone when people were enslaved. I also have a cardinal on my flag because the Cardinal is an Illinois state bird. The yellow symbolizes friendliness. In my research I found out that people in Illinois are known for being friendly.

3809



Relationship to Illinois

Student is a middle schooler in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has an eagle on it, as an homage to the current Illinois flag and the national bird. The flag was inspired by the flag of Chicago. The flag also has a cardinal, the state bird, and the state seal on it. The 20 stars represent the 20 states that came before Illinois, and the triangle represents Illinois.

3810



Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago in 1994 right after college from Detroit, MI. I fell in love with the city of Chicago from the very first time I visited back in the early 90s and even back then, knew that I would one day call Illinois home. This year marks 30 years, and I am still proudly living, working, and playing in the great state of Illinois, and still find myself falling in love with her over and over again.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design has 3 green & gold stripes representing the 3 geographic regions of IL (Northern, Central & Southern). I chose green & yellow to represent the prairielands, forests & crops (yellow for corn-state vegetable). The blue represents IL wetlands, Lake Michigan & IL waterways. The star represents Chicago, the most populous city, epicenter of the state & national hub. The overall color scheme also reflects IL's commitment to environmental preservation & conservation, vital to our future.

3811

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Midwesterner who has lived in Illinois since 2017 where my wife and I are proudly raising our two children. We enjoy exploring all parts of our beautiful state whether it be Shawnee National Forest, the rolling hills of Jo Daviess County, the charming cities and towns of Central Illinois, or the world-class museums of Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag depicts the sun rising over Lake Michigan and the prairie. The 18 sun rays reference our year of statehood, 1818. The constellation of stars represent Illinois's cities, towns, and villages. There are 21 star points to signify Illinois as the 21st state. The two vertical blue bands intersecting the lake represent the great rivers of Illinois and their importance to our history. The colors also represent agriculture, commerce, and the natural world.

3812

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised here in Illinois. Lived in Chicago all my life, created a business here, and raising children here.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

With Illinois being the land of Lincoln, it made sense to represent not only Lincoln, but the education and agriculture of Illinois, hence the color of corn and the dots of all of our public colleges, I should have done one for Knox, but it's not public.

3813

Relationship to Illinois

Student is an Illinois middle school student.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has the state motto on the flag. There are also 21 stars, as Illinois is the 21st state. There are 18 feathers as Illinois became a state in 1818. The feathers are cardinal feathers as the cardinal is the state bird. The flag also has an image of Lincoln in the center as Illinois is the Land of Lincoln. Finally, the colors are red, white, and blue as they show loyalty to the Union.



3814

Relationship to Illinois

I spent most of my most-formative years living in Chicago and exploring all over Illinois, from Cairo at the bottom all the way up to Naval Base Great Lakes at the top. I fell in love in Illinois, my son was born at Northwestern, much of my family and closest friends still call Illinois home, and while I'm temporarily a resident of California for a cant-pass-up career opportunity, I hope to call Illinois home again soon.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag takes a motif from the current flag * the sun rising over water * simplifies it, and combines it with a sun/sunflower image based on a motif in stained glass in the Statehouse dome to create a simple, striking vision of Illinois as a shining light for industry, innovation, and agriculture.

3815

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Midwesterner who has lived in Illinois since 2017 where my wife and I are proudly raising our two children. We enjoy exploring all parts of our beautiful state whether it be Shawnee National Forest, the rolling hills of Jo Daviess County, the charming cities and towns of Central Illinois, or the world-class museums of Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag depicts a sunburst among a constellation of stars. There are 20 stars representing the states admitted to the Union before Illinois, and the sun represents Illinois as the 21st. There are 36 sun rays, which is a nod to our year of statehood: 1818 ($18 + 18 = 36$). The 15 stripes represent the 15 counties of Illinois at the time of statehood. The combination of stars and stripes is meant to evoke our national flag, and is a nod to our state motto: "State Sovereignty, National Union."

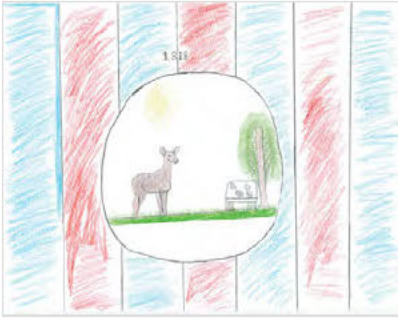
3816

Relationship to Illinois

I'm [REDACTED]. I was born in Illinois state and my time spent in Illinois was happy and great. I am inspired by all the hard working people in the state of Illinois. My goal is to leave a mark here one day. I hope to live and make the best out of the rest of my year in Illinois. I spent all of my years in Chicago. I go to a school downtown. Also I want to join the military.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

white-tailed deer: white-tailed deer is the Illinois state animal
pumpkin pie: pumpkin pie is state pie
popcorn: popcorn is state snack
1818: 1818 was the day Illinois became a state
white oak tree: Illinois state tree



3817

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the town where the Lincoln family settled before moving to Springfield. I have spent years growing up in various parts of the state; I've lived in the hometown of Superman, in the hometown of the dishwasher, and in the town where Frank Lloyd Wright built his first prairie home. I've been blessed to call the southern, central, and northern areas of Illinois home in various times of my life. As proud as many Michiganders are of their state, I am a proud son of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag embodies Illinois as the unifier of the country. With population demographics that best match those of the nation, we are a microcosm of all Americans. The blue and gray represent the North and South during the Civil War. The line between is not red for the bloodshed, but rather white for unity. The star which connects the two sides represents Illinois' gift to the nation, which brought together a divided people: Lincoln.



3818



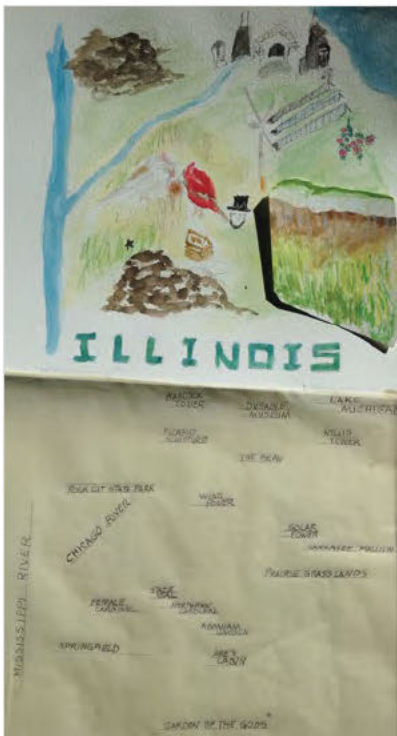
Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

First the three stripes in the background represent the three main geographic regions of Illinois, Northern, Central and Southern. Second, the outline of the state and the state bird, the cardinal. Last is the wavy blue line which represents the three rivers that define the border of Illinois, the Mississippi, the Ohio and the Wabash.

3819



Relationship to Illinois

Hello! I am a long-time Illinois resident, having lived here since 1998.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This new Illinois State Flag design attempts to show the relationship between the big city and the majority of the state. It showcases water, prairie, farm, glacial history. The DuSable Museum references history, as does Abraham Lincoln. This flag is also a view of the future with wind and solar power, and the Kankakee Mallow may be the new state flower. A Female cardinal is beside the familiar red cardinal, and between them is the State Seal. Each detail is located where it would be on a map.

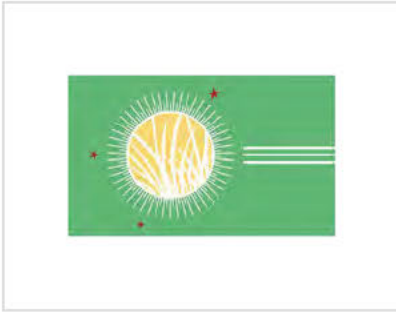
3820

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of the state of Illinois all of my life. Born and raised in the city of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Theme: The Prairie State * The main image is the visual representation of the state's nickname, The Prairie State. The image is encircled by 102 "beams of light" that represent the 102 counties of Illinois. The three surrounding stars are the three bodies of water that surround the state * Lake Michigan to the northeast, Mississippi River to the west, and The Ohio River to the south. The three horizontal bars are the three regions * north, central and southern.



3821

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago in 1994 right after college from Detroit, MI. I fell in love with the city of Chicago from the very first time I visited back in the early 90s and even back then, knew that I would one day call Illinois home. This year marks 30 years, and I am still proudly living, working, and playing in the great state of Illinois, and still find myself falling in love with her over and over again.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design combines the most iconic symbols/features of IL. The Capitol Building, Chicago skyline, the rocks of Shawnee National Forest & the canyons of Starved Rock. The 3 green & gold stripes represent the 3 geographical regions of the state & the colors represent the prairielands, forestry & crops. The wave across the bottom represents Lake Michigan & our waterways & wetlands. The overall color scheme reflects IL's commitment to environmental preservation & conservation, vital to our future.



3822



Relationship to Illinois

Student is an Illinois middle school student.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a tree with the state flower, violets growing. The flag has 21 stars as Illinois is the 21st state.

3823



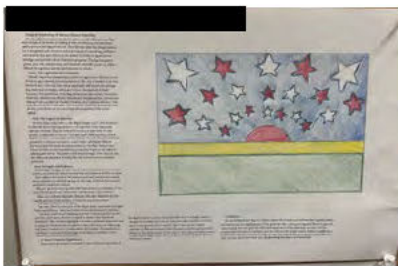
Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois most of my life. I grew up in Naperville, a suburb of Chicago. I work, live and raise my family in the City of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has been split into three sections representing the 3 regions of Illinois: northern, central and southern. The blue color represents the rivers that have shaped the border of the state as well as the Lake Michigan. The 8-point star at the center of the flag represents Illinois as a central hub and is also a nod to the designs and symbols within the architecture of the Ill. State Capitol building. The protective shield is a nod to the original flag design and motto.

3824



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here all my life, and I love everything about Illinois. It has so much to offer from the city of Chicago to all the rural areas and beautiful scenic destinations. Illinois has a special place in my heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Illinois state flag design stands for a thoughtful pair of colors that each stand for something different and symbols that pay tribute to the state's rich history, agricultural heritage and pivotal role in American progress. This flag integrates green, gold, red and the sun, each element carefully chose to reflect Illinois' recognition and its achievements in whole.

3825

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Gurnee, IL. Student attends Illinois Math and Science Academy in Aurora.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag honors Illinois' deep connection to Abraham Lincoln, who spent much of his life here and shaped the state's legacy, earning Illinois the title "Land of Lincoln."

The state flower, the common blue violet, forms a wreath around Lincoln, symbolizing natural beauty and unity. The unique gold background reflects the state's rich prairies and prosperity, also nicely complementing the violets. The stylized "Illinois" blends modern design with tradition, enhancing the flag's unique appeal.

3826

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois and a proud public school educator in our great state. We are submitting on behalf of our 7th grade students.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

We chose the eagle because it is the animal of America, and it is a big part of the current Illinois flag. In our group we think that it could also be used to represent power or freedom also. We chose corn because agriculture is a big part of Illinois.

We also chose the colors of blue, orange, and white because blue represents the Mississippi River, orange represents warmth, and white shows the cold. That shows how the weather in the midwest and Illinois can change so fast.

3827

Relationship to Illinois

I moved from Massachusetts to Deerfield, Illinois when I was three years old in 1987. I lived in Illinois until I went to college in Indiana in 2002. I visited family in Illinois often and lived and worked in the Chicago area 2006-2008. In 2016 when I was pregnant with my son I moved back to Illinois to be closer to my family and my son was born here in 2016 and my daughter was born here in 2018. I am a resident of Gurnee Illinois and I'm planning to stay in Illinois for the rest of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to show the natural beauty of Illinois. The flag features the state bird, the state flower, and prairie grass. I chose silver for 1818 because I think flags should use metallic thread to elevate the design. I chose the rainbow in the background as a sign of hope and unity.



3828

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life. I was born in Cook County, I grew up in rural Illinois in Macomb Illinois, and I now live in Chicago. I graduated from Western Illinois University and now work for state government. I believe in the possibilities of this state and intend to live here my whole life. My time in both rural "forgottonia" and urban Chicago has given me a deep love of all characteristics of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red 8-sided star represents IL joining the union in 1818, and represents Abraham Lincoln as the 16th President (8 points and 8 inner angles). The white background represents Illinois' vast open sky, the blue band along the left-hand side represents the Mississippi and other navigable waters like Lake Michigan, IL river etc. Together with the red of the star, the colors signify the Union. The grain symbols are a nod to Illinois' largest export as well as the moniker the "prairie state".



3829

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a Chicago lifer, baby

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a highly simplified version of a motif swiped from a stained glass panel in Springfield's Dana-Thomas House, a Frank Lloyd Wright creation packed with design elements that often read to my city-rat eyes as prairie plants that reach to the heavens like skyscrapers. The colors are, of course, orange and blue like U of I, like your future Super Bowl champion Chicago Bears, and like my high school gym uniform.



3830

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Chicago in 1994 right after college from Detroit, MI. I fell in love with the city of Chicago from the very first time I visited back in the early 90s and even back then, knew that I would one day call Illinois home. This year marks 30 years, and I am still proudly living, working, and playing in the great state of Illinois, and still find myself falling in love with her over and over again.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green & gold stripes in the center represent IL prairielands, forestry & crops (yellow for corn, our state vegetable). The blue space on either side represents Lake Michigan & IL waterways that surround our state (Mississippi River, Ohio River & Wabash River). The star represents Chicago, the most populous area of the state, a national hub, IL economic engine & cultural epicenter of our great state. The location of the star represents its northern geographic location on the lake.



3831

Relationship to Illinois

I moved from Massachusetts to Deerfield, Illinois when I was three years old in 1987.

I lived in Illinois until I went to college in Indiana in 2002. I visited family in Illinois often and lived and worked in the Chicago area 2006-2008. In 2016 when I was pregnant with my son I moved back to Illinois to be closer to my family and my son was born here in 2016 and my daughter was born here in 2018. I am a resident of Gurnee Illinois and I'm planning to stay in Illinois for the rest of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to show the natural beauty of Illinois. The flag features the state bird, the state flower, and prairie grass. I chose silver for 1818 because I think flags should use metallic thread to elevate the design. I chose the rainbow in the background as a sign of hope and unity.



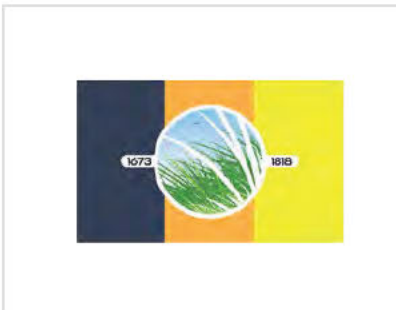
3832

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifetime resident of the state of Illinois. Born and raised in the city of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The main image is a graphic/illustrative representation of "The Prairie State." It includes long blades of grass blowing in the wind while two regional birds soar in the background. Flanked on the left and right by the years 1673 and 1818 * the date the state was settled and the date it was admitted to the union. The three vertical bands of color represent the three regions of the state, Northern, Central, and Southern.



3833

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident for 22 years after moving to Chicago as a young adult from Michigan. I am a UIC graduate, married to a Chicago native, and my kids are the fourth generation living in our northwest side neighborhood. Our family enjoys traveling to the many wonderful Illinois towns and cities and frequently camps at state parks. My front porch is adorned with Chicago and US flags, and I would be thrilled to represent our great state by flying a flag I helped design alongside them.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois geographic features are prominently conveyed with contrasting cyan and deep green. Eagle head provides continuity with the current Illinois flag, and with the star rings represent America and patriotism. White eagle head: American bald eagle
Outer ring of 18 large, 18 medium stars: 1818 founding
Inner ring of 102 small stars: Number of counties
Green background: Prairie and agricultural areas
Blue triangle: Lake Michigan, Chicago and suburbs
Blue stripe: Mississippi River, towns

3834

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is another take on some of the motifs from my other design * stylized wheat stalks that kind of, sort of look like a famous building in downtown Chicago. Colors are the same: go Illini, go Bears, go Dolphins.

3835

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois born and raised -attended both of my universities in Illinois -both degrees in Illinois -(University of Illinois & University of Chicago)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois, the 21st State to join the Union, is represented by the Sun with 21 (Illinois is bright and shines -has many Nobel Prize winners - Leaders in Art and Literature - Inventors and More)A Great Lake - A Great City with industry - A Great River (Mississippi)Crops and Agriculture from Corn to SoybeansFlag proportion 3:5 (standard for many states)



3836

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised here. First Generation with my family making this state their home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue is for Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. Placement is where the lake is located. Orange is for UIC, crops production, Da Bears. Placement is central IL where UIC is. Purple is for Violet Flowers and Prairie State. Red stars is homage to Chicago. First star for first adoption of IL flag, second star is for current flag, and third for this new flag. Equal area for each color representing the equality this state strives for, whether politically, socially, or economically.



3837

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue ground represents the bodies of water that shape the borders of our state, the star in the northeast corner is for Chicago, and the cardinal is our state bird. It's a beautiful bird that we see all over the state*on baseball caps in Belleville & garden flags in Wrigleyville, on the field at Hancock Stadium & in the fields of corn that surround it, as much a joy to see in the wilds of Shawnee National Forest as it is in the parking lot landscaping outside the Steak 'n Shake in Rockford.



3838

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident for 22 years after moving to Chicago as a young adult from Michigan. I am a UIC graduate, married to a Chicago native, and my kids are the fourth generation living in our northwest side neighborhood. Our family enjoys traveling to the many wonderful Illinois towns and cities and frequently camps at state parks. My front porch is adorned with Chicago and US flags, and I would be thrilled to represent our great state by flying a flag I helped design alongside them.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois geographic features are prominently conveyed, using deep blue and soft green. Currently, none of the seven states with a cardinal as their state bird feature it on their flag and would thus make for a unique symbol. White cardinal: State bird
Outer ring of 18 large, 18 medium stars: 1818 founding
Inner ring of 102 small stars: Number of counties
Green background: Prairie and agricultural areas
Blue triangle: Lake Michigan, Chicago and suburbs
Blue stripe: Mississippi River, towns

3839

Relationship to Illinois

I hold a degree in Industrial Design from the University of Illinois Chicago and currently work as a Graphic Design Manager at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. With a deep passion for design, vexillology, and the role flags play in uniting communities, Illinois has been central to both my education and career, shaping my understanding of how thoughtful design can reflect and inspire civic pride.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design features a May Green background, representing Illinois' agricultural heritage as well as sustainability and growth. At the center, an 8-pointed orange cardinal star (state bird) symbolizes Illinois as a geographical crossroads. A sky blue four-pointed star at its center represents unity. Sky blue lines divide the flag into four quadrants, reflecting the state's four regions and resembling prairie fields from an aerial view, symbolizing the Prairie State.

3840

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my whole life. Not only am I born and raised here, I am completely Illinois educated; I am an alum from both NEIU and UIUC. I am proud that I hail from one of the diverse communities in the state (Skokie), and have never even considered living in another state. Also, I am a Librarian, and there is truly no better place to be as we are the state that best supports its libraries and information professionals. I am a true Midwesterner and Illinoisian, accent included.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The first flag was inspired by our "Land of Lincoln" slogan. I remember learning about the state flag as a child. When we had to draw it, I remember that little third grade Jimmy was not happy because it had so much detail. So, I made a simple flag that is quickly recognizable under any circumstances. Our surrounding midwestern neighbors great pride in their respective state shapes, and this is a great opportunity for us to do the same.

3841

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident, born and raised in Hillside, Illinois. I attended Triton College in River Grove, Illinois and received my Associate's in Art's. Shortly after, I transferred to Elmhurst University after receiving an Art Scholarship. Currently, I am an art vendor and attend local events to sell and showcase my art.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Illinois flag celebrates the state's rich history and culture. Lincoln's home symbolizes Illinois as the Land of Lincoln, while the Harold Washington Library symbolizes Chicago's cultural and educational significance. DeKalb highlights agricultural roots, and the Chicago Loop represents the wonderful city of Chicago. Amtrak symbolizes travel across Illinois, not just Chicago. Route 66 reflects the state's transportation legacy, with the State Capitol representing its governance.

3842

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident for 22 years after moving to Chicago as a young adult from Michigan. I am a UIC graduate, married to a Chicago native, and my kids are the fourth generation living in our northwest side neighborhood. Our family enjoys traveling to the many wonderful Illinois towns and cities and frequently camps at state parks. My front porch is adorned with Chicago and US flags, and I would be thrilled to represent our great state by flying a flag I helped design alongside them.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois geographic features are prominently conveyed, using bright green and deep blue, with slightly longer triangles than my other two submissions. The open gate symbolizes hospitality, tourism, a history of immigration-boosted economic development, and sanctuary state status. White gate: Illinois welcomes new residents and visitors Red cardinal: State bird Green background: Prairie and agricultural areas Blue triangle: Lake Michigan, Chicago and suburbs Blue stripe: Mississippi River, towns

3843

Relationship to Illinois

I am a current resident and I was born and raised in the great state of Illinois! I have mostly lived in the Chicago area. I love traveling around the state, from seeing historic sites in Springfield, rolling hills in Galena, to White Pines in Oregon.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design was created to stand out both indoors and against the Illinois sky. The stars represent Illinoisans, past, present and future. The blue represent our great waterways, from the Mississippi to Lake Michigan. The orange is a symbol for our commerce, from the bright lights of Chicago, to our pumpkin farms. We finish the cycle of changing colors with green, which represents our beautiful, vast, and versatile landscape. This flag uses simple lines, and a limited palate to stand out.

3844

Relationship to Illinois



I have a strong connection to Illinois, where I was born and have spent most of my life. This state has shaped my identity and provided me with countless experiences that enrich my perspective. The cultural diversity, historical significance, and vibrant communities I've engaged with here make Illinois a significant part of my story. My roots run deep, and I cherish the many memories and relationships I've built throughout my time in this incredible state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The images represent the crops we grow, the lakes and rivers are represented by the blue in the stars, and the images also represent the pride we have in our state.

3845

Relationship to Illinois



I moved to Chicago, IL three years ago on a whim to attend film school at DePaul University and have loved every second of it. The ubiquity and iconography of the city is matched only by the beauty of the state's natural landscapes and lakes. Every person I have met here has made me realize that I need to stay here, probably for a good portion of my life. Although I wasn't born here, I feel I have been able to fully grasp what is so special about Illinoisans and experience many beautiful areas.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

To keep the flag feeling forward-thinking, the historical references are expressed through color and shape. The star on the right-sided canton shows the people of Illinois at the time of the flag's inception and looks toward our bright future. It is based on the Chicago flag's stars that represent important milestones for Chicagoans. Similarly, the colors also seek to contextualize the new MN flag. The location of the canton represents Lake Michigan's importance, the green for our agriculture.

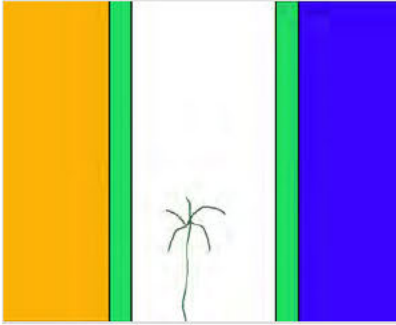
3846

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and have lived only in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Orange band represents the birth of our state in 1818 and the sun that gives sustenance. The blue band represents Lake Michigan/Mississippi River, without which Illinois would cease to function. Green represents the middle prairies in between, the hallmark of our state. At the intersection of the river, sun, and prairie we are all prosperous. The design can represent either our agricultural past or a windmill powering the future. When people see IL they will think progress.



3847

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois born and raised -attended both of my universities in Illinois -both degrees in Illinois - (University of Illinois & University of Chicago)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois, the 21st State to join the Union, is represented by the Sun with 21 (Illinois is bright and shines -has many Nobel Prize winners - Leaders in Art and Literature - Inventors and More)A Great Lake - A Great City with industry - A Great River (Mississippi)Crops and Agriculture from Corn to SoybeansFlag proportion 3:5 (standard for many states)



3848

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised on the southside of Chicago, graduate of Illinois State University and a proud life long resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Illinois flag design honors the state's central role as the heart of transportation in America. The two blue stripes represent railroad tracks. The two red stripes form train silhouettes converging to form a five-point star. Three stars, totaling 21 points, celebrate Illinois as the 21st state. The two red eight-point stars represent Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President. The color blue symbolizes perseverance, while the color red symbolizes sacrifices for prosperity.



3849



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised here. First Generation, my family made this state their home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue is for Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. Orange is for UIC, crops production, and Da Bears. Violet is for Violet Flower and Prairie State. Red is for Cardinals, the Bulls, and beating heart of IL people. Seal of 1915, simple seal to reproduce and recognize.

3850



Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois and a proud public school educator in our great state. We are submitting on behalf of our 7th grade students.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Our flag features are a white oak, 21 stars, 3 colors (yellow, green, blue), and a blue ribbon. The white oak provides significant food and shelter to many different species of wildlife and is critical to the overall health and ecosystem and symbolizes our state tree and its importance to Illinois. Illinois became the 21st state to enter the Union on December 3, 1818. The 21 stars represent how Illinois was the twenty-first state in the United States.

3851

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life and honestly love it. I have lived most of my life in semi rural Southern Illinois but moved recently to Chicago. While a little town in Southern Illinois and the third largest city in the whole country do not have a lot in common, they do share the state of Illinois. I love both aspects.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are many aspects of our beloved state captured in this flag. The dark blue stripe above a dark green base, represents a common landscape throughout Illinois of flat fields under a blue sky. The blue echoes the U.S. flag, while the green symbolizes Illinois's growth. The yellow side bordered by the Mississippi River represents Illinois as the "breadbasket" of the U.S. The white six pointed star is in homage to another vital part of the state * the city of Chicago.

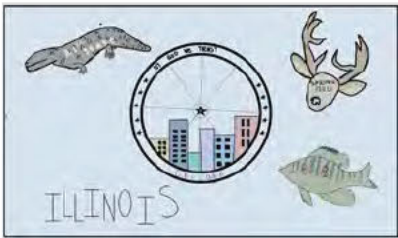
3852

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my whole life. I'm super grateful to live in a great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my flag, you'll see many state symbols. In the salamander I wrote "21ststate", because Illinois was the 21st state to enter the union. In the deer, there's Springfield, since it's the state capitol. I added 1818 in the northern cardinal since that's the year Illinois became a state. I put Chicago along with the towers, since that's the biggest city in Illinois. There's 13 stars, and it represents the first 13 states. Chicago and the stars are in a bike tire since it's the state exercise.



3853

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my whole life. Not only am I born and raised here, I am completely Illinois educated; I am an alum from both NEIU and UIUC. I am proud that I hail from one of the diverse communities in the state (Skokie), and have never even considered living in another state. Also, I am a Librarian, and there is truly no better place to be as we are the state that best supports its libraries and information professionals. I am a true Midwesterner and Illinoisian, accent included.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I was inspired by Illinois's iconic state symbols. The blue gill gives representation to our fresh water resources. The cardinal represents our freedom, wind resources, and it's a year-round bird species to pay homage to our state getting all seasons. The violet represents our iconic nature and beauty. The corn represents our Midwestern status and highlights our agricultural significance, both environmentally and economically. A semi-simple design that can be quickly recognized.

3854

Relationship to Illinois

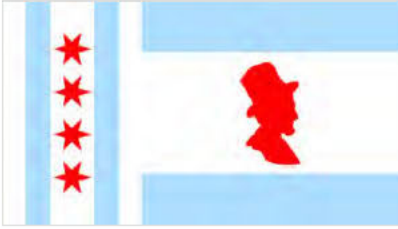
I hold a degree in Industrial Design from the University of Illinois Chicago and currently work as a Graphic Design Manager at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. With a deep passion for design, vexillology, and the role flags play in uniting communities, Illinois has been central to both my education and career, shaping my understanding of how thoughtful design can reflect and inspire civic pride.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features a checkered sky blue and orange design, divided into four quadrants, symbolizing Illinois' four geographical regions. At the center is a 21-point star, representing Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union. The star is also divided into four contrasting sky blue and orange quadrants, further reinforcing the state's regional diversity and creating a striking checkered pattern that honors its historical and geographical significance.

3855



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my entire life and always have been disappointed in the current flag

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Uses the Chicago flag as base to reference the most populated part of Illinois and adds Lincoln to reference the famous person from Illinois.

3856



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag includes my interpretation of the state seal. I included a map of the state and a cardinal as the state bird, surrounded by the state flower, violets.

3857



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and have been a resident for 22 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The gold shape is an approximation of the shape of Illinois. The white chevron along the west side of this shape represents the Mississippi River. The 6-pointed star represents Chicago. The chevron and star together represent the industrial and commercial strengths of Illinois. The white on the flag is also an homage to the white of the previous state flag. The green and blue horizon represent big skies over prairie grasslands, along with the state's rich agricultural heritage.

3858

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois from Mississippi three years ago. I served as a Dunn Fellow for Gov. Pritzker, a Legislative Liaison and Technology Policy Analyst for Attorney Gen. Raoul and I now serve as a Cybersecurity and Risk Management Policy Advisor at the ICC. Illinois has been an incredibly welcoming place and I believe that my flag design represents the diversity of Illinois.



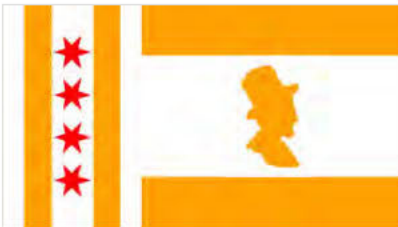
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue I represents the I at the beginning Illinois and the rivers that run throughout Illinois. There are five stars along the edge: a yellow star representing the energy sector; a green star representing agriculture; a red star representing First Responders; a blue star representing educators; and a grey/silver star representing the Unions/trades. The simplicity of this design provides for an array of marketing opportunities while showcasing the diversity of IL's economy and workforce.

3859

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois my entire life and have always been disappointed in the current flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Uses the Chicago flag as base to reference the most populated part of Illinois, adds Lincoln to reference the famous person from Illinois uses orange too reference the largest export of Illinois, that being pumpkin.

3860

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and I would love to see a unique flag for the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and orange colors symbolize the people and culture of Illinois. The big star depicts the current capital of Illinois, Springfield, and the two smaller stars show the previous 2 capitals of Illinois, Kaskaskia and Vandalia.



3861

Relationship to Illinois

I am submitting on behalf of my 12 year old daughter, Cora. This text is from her. I live and have school in Illinois. I love the culture and buildings and trees and everything about Illinois. this will be the place where I will complete school, possibly get married, and so much more. This state is great and I think we should have a good flag that goes along with it.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I am submitting on behalf of my 12 year old daughter, Cora. This text is from her. The red white and blue on the flag represent how we are part of the USA and that Illinois should be proud of it. The brown in the middle can represent so many things. It goes as far as representing The L, to farmland, to the letter "I". All in all, I know that this flag is a great design for Illinois. (And will be better than the one we have now.) :)



3862

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for most of my life. I've completed my education and worked here and felt a strong sense of community in this state. From Chicago to the southern tip I've seen the natural and urban beauty that our state has to offer. For years I thought that our state should have a flag that is befitting for our great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

When people think of America many people think of the mid-west. Friendly people, lots of nature and a strong sense of American values. In my flag design I wanted to incorporate the union flag into our state flag to show my support and love for the Union. I use the red, white and blue for the colors to pay homage to our country flag. The thirteen stars in the middle represent the original thirteen states that started America.



3863

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois born and raised - attended both of my universities in Illinois - both degrees in Illinois - (University of Illinois & University of Chicago)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois, the 21st State to join the Union, is represented by the Sun with 21 points (Illinois is bright and shines - has many Nobel Prize winners - Leaders in Art and Literature - Inventors and More) A Great Lake - A Great City with industry - A Great River (Mississippi) Crops and Agriculture from Corn to Soybeans Flag proportion 3:5 (standard for many states)



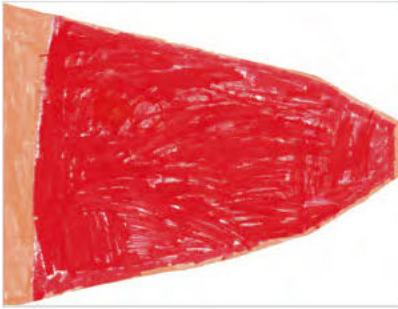
3864

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. Chicago style/deep dish pizza is something good about Illinois. It is the Lincoln state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It is deep dish pizza.



3865

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and I would love to see a unique flag for the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and orange colors symbolize the people and culture of Illinois. The middle shape is the state flower of Illinois, a blue violet. The ring of 21 stars around the flower shows that Illinois was the 21st state to join the union.



3866

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised. Will never leave.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's simple, it's strong, it's iconic. It's the same eagle from our previous flag, however now he's just holding a stalk of corn which signifies Illinois' strong agricultural roots. I also believe IL is the most american of all american states--diversity of people, cities, industries, etc., so we should proudly still keep the national bald eagle for our state flag.



3867

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen of Illinois and a proud public school educator in our great state. We are submitting on behalf of our 7th grade students.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Our flag features the color blue because it represents the Mississippi River and the banner that also reads "Land of Lincoln." The color yellow because the sun represents happiness and the crops Illinois grows. The color red because it represents everyone's love for America. The color brown represents the eagle. The color white represents the white in the original Illinois flag. The American Flag represents everyone's love for America.



3868

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for my whole life. Not only am I born and raised here, I am completely Illinois educated; I am an alum from both NEIU and UIUC. I am proud that I hail from one of the diverse communities in the state (Skokie), and have never even considered living in another state. Also, I am a Librarian, and there is truly no better place to be as we are the state that best supports its libraries and information professionals. I am a true Midwesterner and Illinoisian, accent included.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag was inspired by a true IL aesthetic. The sun and clouds represent our seasons and prairie state clear skies. The water to the right represents our status as a water-rich state. Corn crops represent our Midwestern status and highlights our agricultural significance, both environmentally and economically. Cardinal in the middle perched on the state name to represent our freedom, also the cardinal is a year-round bird which pays homage to getting all seasons in IL. Simple, yet detailed.

3869

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design embodies Illinois' spirit and connection to its natural beauty. The navy background reflects the state's strength, while the white six-pointed star highlights Illinois' role as the sixth state formed from the Northwest Territory. The light blue stripe represents vital rivers that foster trade and growth, and the smaller gold stripe below symbolizes prosperity and hope. Together, these elements create a flag that captures Illinois' heritage, unity, and promise for the future.





3870

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and I would love to see a unique flag for the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and orange colors symbolize the people and culture of Illinois. The I stands for the I in Illinois like the flags of Colorado and Ohio. The left orange shape is a wing of the state insect, a monarch butterfly.

3871

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the town where the Lincoln family settled before moving to Springfield. I have spent years growing up in various parts of the state; I've lived in the hometown of Superman, in the hometown of the dishwasher, and in the town where Frank Lloyd Wright built his first prairie home. I've been blessed to call the southern, central, and northern areas of Illinois home in various times of my life. As proud as many Michiganders are of their state, I am a proud son of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is inspired by the lyrics of the state song, "Illinois." The blue stripe represents the "rivers gently flowing," as well as Lake Michigan. The green field represents the "prairies verdant growing." On either side of the river stripe are symbols representing the strength of the state. On the left, a cornstalk grows, representing the agriculture of the more rural areas.. On the right, a skyline represents Chicago, birthplace of skyscrapers. Both are part of the lifeblood of Illinois.



3872

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life and honestly love it. I have lived most of my life in semi rural Southern Illinois but moved recently to Chicago. While a little town in Southern Illinois and the third largest city in the whole country do not have a lot in common, they do share the state of Illinois. I love both aspects.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This simple design evokes the visual of a field planted on the mostly flat Illinois countryside under a pale blue sky accompanied by a rising north star. The three elements signify the three major geographical regions of Southern, Central, and Northern Illinois. The curved yellow portion is reminiscent of a basket, thus symbolizing Illinois as the "breadbasket" of the United States. The blue background and white six pointed star also point to Chicago as important to Illinois' identity.



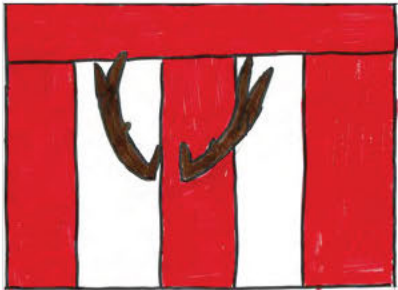
3873

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. I think this state is beautiful. In the fall all the trees bloom and are so beautiful. And the weather here is great.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the state color on it in stripes and deer antlers to represent all the deer we see in this state.



3874

Relationship to Illinois

My relationship to Illinois is living in it. Illinois is a beautiful state that is welcoming to everyone. I'm happy to be living in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has a red background with a white star in the middle. The star represents when Illinois joined the union, having 21 corners. In the middle there is a butterfly which is the state insect.



3875

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life and honestly love it. I have lived most of my life in semi rural Southern Illinois but moved recently to Chicago. While a little town in Southern Illinois and the third largest city in the whole country do not have a lot in common, they do share the state of Illinois. I love both aspects.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This simple design evokes the visual of a field planted on the mostly flat Illinois countryside under a pale blue sky accompanied by a rising north star. The three elements signify the three major geographical regions of Southern, Central, and Northern Illinois. The curved yellow portion is reminiscent of a basket, thus symbolizing Illinois as the "breadbasket" of the United States. The blue background and white six pointed star also point to Chicago as important to Illinois' identity.

3876

Relationship to Illinois

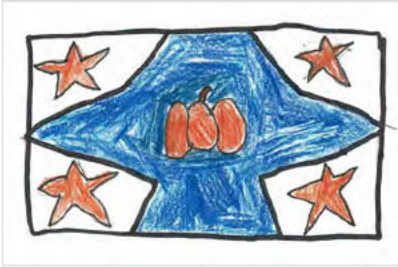
I was born in the town where the Lincoln family settled before moving to Springfield. I have spent years growing up in various parts of the state; I've lived in the hometown of Superman, in the hometown of the dishwasher, and in the town where Frank Lloyd Wright built his first prairie home. I've been blessed to call the southern, central, and northern areas of Illinois home in various times of my life. As proud as many Michiganders are of their state, I am a proud son of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag exemplifies the state motto of "State Sovereignty, National Union." It utilizes two symbols from the current state flag: the rising sun and the national shield. The sun has twenty-one rays, as Illinois is the 21st state to be admitted to the Union. The shield represents the strength and security our nation provides its citizens, used in battle but as protection. They both come together to form the shape of a kernel of corn being planted, the hope for continued bounty in the state.

3877



Relationship to Illinois

When I think of Illinois I think of calm, quiet and its natural beauty. It's great living here because we don't have hurricanes nor tsunamis.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Our flag has four orange stars to represent freedom. In the middle of the flag it's an orange pumpkin, because more farmers grow pumpkins in Illinois than anywhere else in the world.

3878



Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design embodies Illinois' spirit and connection to its natural beauty. The navy background reflects the state's strength, while the white six-pointed star highlights Illinois' role as the sixth state formed from the Northwest Territory. The light blue stripe represents vital rivers that foster trade and growth, and the orange arrow stripe symbolizes forwardness. Together, these elements create a flag that captures Illinois' heritage, unity, and promise for the future.

3879



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since March of 2023.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top is Old Glory Blue (hex #002868) to represent Illinois' waterways, the industry stemming from them, and its hardy people. The bottom is Lincoln Green (hex #478778) to represent Illinois' natural bounty and its great leaders like Lincoln. Separating the two is a wavy line of white (hex #FFFFFF) to represent Illinois as the prairie state and a major agricultural center in the USA.



3880

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the state bird and state fish which are red cardinal and a blue gill and a shield with the American flag and a sign with Illinois and the date it became a state.



3881

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since 2018.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The crossing lines represent the Chicago River and its 3 branches, as well as the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers. The three sections represent the regions of our state: Northern, Central, and Southern. There were also 3 colonial powers that have claimed this land (France, England, and the US) after it was settled by indigenous groups, including the Council of the Three Fires. The 16 point star on the star is symbolic of the 16th President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln.

3882

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois and my hometown for my whole life. I am a student at Illinois State University in the Geography Department. Lincoln played a role in the founding of ISNU with Jesse Fell. I hope to stay in Illinois after graduation.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red star can move to the top right to reflect Chicago's location. Chicago is the most populated and influential city. Chicago was a center of industry and a transportation link between different parts of the country. Lincoln was an influential figure who shaped Illinois and the entire USA. Our nickname is the Land of Lincoln. River blue is the influence of trade and the distribution of cities around IL. The yellow resembles corn and the prairie (nickname) for the natural/ag side of Illinois.



3883

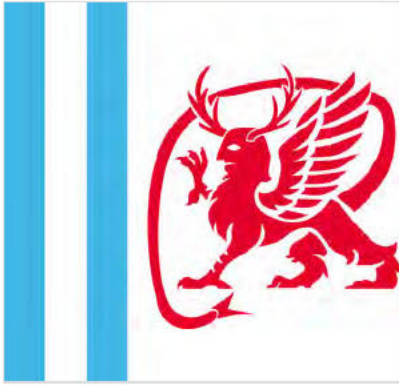
Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois in 2005 with my husband, Randolph Elble, a professor at the SIU Medical School in Springfield. I visited Springfield several times as a child as my father was very devoted to Abraham Lincoln, and I came to share his feeling. Lincoln to me represents all the best of Illinois; his striving, his honesty, his intelligence and his deep sense of justice, along with his determination to lead the country to victory when it was faced with peril, are great virtues we must share.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Five-pointed stars are sovereign states. The large white star is the U.S., and the red one at the heart of the white Illinois. The two together embody the state motto, "State sovereignty, national union." White means purity: for national union, this can be read as "unbroken." Red means valor: Illinois fought to preserve that union. The blue field is the waters that bound Illinois and the fair skies that favor her. Blue means both freedom and loyalty, together, as seen in the motto.





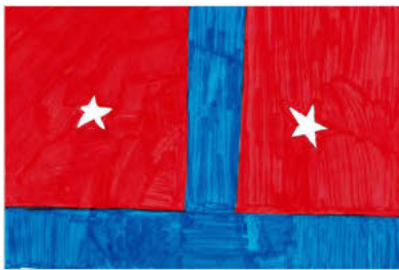
3884

Relationship to Illinois

I have friends that live in Illinois to whom I speak often. I have always wanted to visit Chicago to see the Field Museum, the Lincoln Park Zoo, and the Bean.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag uses the colors present on the Chicago flag. The blue bars represent water, and the creature is an illustration of the Piasa Bird, an indigenous legendary creature from Illinois.



3885

Relationship to Illinois

We live here and we love the state of Illinois. The thing that's great about it is it is a free country, and there is a lot of water.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has 2 blue lines, 2 stars, 2 red boxes. The red=The blood we shed, the blue=The water we have, and the stars= The freedom we have.



3886

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived in the state my whole life. I have always bonded with nature and tried to go out and about in Illinois as much as possible. I enjoy making art and have used nature as a basis for many of my creations. I am a High School senior at Lane Tech and aspire to use my abilities for the greater good.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is simplistic and childish. In the center, a whitetail deer represents nature within Illinois most notably the state animal. The state animal was chosen in 1980 by schoolchildren; this playoff between a state symbol in a childish drawing elevates the purpose of what Illinois represents. The blue stars are the Orion constellation. The background remains white and the text is the same color as the original design. This flag represents nature, growth, childhood, and traditional values.

3887

Relationship to Illinois

Hi, I'm Kevin. I've lived in Illinois my entire life. Aurora to Hinckley to Urbana to Chicago. I've seen the big and I've lived the small. I've worked in the fields and I've driven the roads. From detasseling corn to archaeological surveys. These days, I manage a museum in the heart of Chicago, the Design Museum of Chicago. I owe it all to this great state. When this flag ripples in the wind, I hope it reflects all of the greatness that this state has to offer ourselves and the nation.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois waves to you in gold and blue, together these colors tell of a land so true. Gold: as the sun on fields of corn, and the prairies vast where dreams are born. Blue: the lakes and rivers that flow, out to the roads where journeys grow. *There are 21 'stripes' here. The last one is the outline of Illinois. The gold is the sun, the prairie, the corn and wheat we grow. The blue is the rivers, lakes, and roads and canals that carry our treasures and connect us all.

3888

Relationship to Illinois

I moved to Illinois from Mississippi three years ago. I served as a Dunn Fellow for Gov. Pritzker, a Legislative Liaison and Technology Policy Analyst for Attorney Gen. Raoul and I now serve as a Cybersecurity and Risk Management Policy Advisor for the Illinois Commerce Commission. This is my second design submission, a blue background and white I instead of the reverse.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white I represents the I at the beginning Illinois and the land that runs between Illinois rivers. There are five stars along the edge: a yellow star representing the energy sector; a green star representing agriculture; a red star representing First Responders; a blue star representing educators; and a grey/silver star representing the Unions/trades. The simplicity of this design provides for an array of marketing opportunities while showcasing the diversity of IL's economy and workforce.

3889

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinois resident, born and raised here, with roots that go back generations. The state has always been home to my family, and its history, culture, and communities have shaped who I am. From the rich landscapes to the strong sense of community, Illinois is more than just where I live*it's part of my identity, woven into my past and present.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The left side of the flag represents Illinois' western border, with the blue symbolizing the Mississippi River that shapes the state. The upper right blue section signifies Lake Michigan. The central symbol reflects Illinois' diverse population, while the cut-out circle represents the state's prairie grass, a nod to its natural heritage.



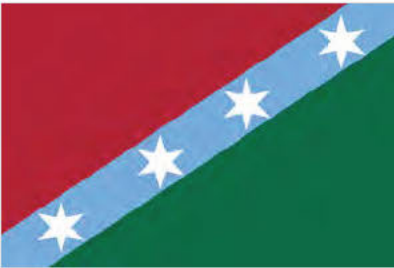
3890

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red means success, the blue stands for the Illinois River, the green is for the prairie which the state is known for, and the stars symbolizes Chicago, its main source of income and what Illinois is most famous for. Although the stars have different meanings. First Star: the native tribe of the Illiniwek Second Star: The Emancipation Proclamation (Illinois was the first state to ratify it) Third Star: Great Chicago Fire Fourth Star: The birth of the atomic age



3891

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-Irene Compadre was born in Chicago. A landscape architect, she recently redesigned Carillon Park in Centralia. Malaika Tolford, a potter, was born & raised in Evanston. Her great (X6) grandfather served in the IL House of Representatives (1820s). Malaika & her kids split time between St. Louis & the family centennial farm in Paris, IL. Raised in Chicago Serhii Chrucky is a notable photographer & graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago. Michael Powell led the flag design team.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-This flag is inspired by key elements of the State Seal. The blue represents the rivers and lakes that flow through IL. Green represents IL's natural areas. The yellow field represents the state's agricultural tradition. Lastly, a star motif rises above the horizon. The 8-pointed star represents indigenous communities and pays homage to their foundational role in the state's history. Meanwhile, the inner circle represents the unity and optimism of all the state's peoples into the future

3892

Relationship to Illinois

The state of Illinois has been my home for more than 20 years. The numeral amount of opportunities, rich nature, open land, and diverse cultures unite all of us as Illinoisians regardless of where we reside. Illinois became more than just another state in the United States of America; Illinois became the structural base of my life and home to my family who have taught me the importance of values, respect and love for others while we thrive each day to succeed and make a difference.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I strongly believe in the importance of our history and those who represent us, therefore, my ideal flag design includes elements from our current flag. I understand that for many of us, our flag represents our home. I decided to slightly modify the layout in order to maintain the symbolism behind our flag while incorporating the well-known "Starved Rock State Park". Where people from urban, suburban, and rural communities reunite to admire Illinois' beautiful part of nature.



3893

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-Irene Compadre was born in Chicago. A landscape architect, she recently redesigned Carillon Park in Centralia. Malaika Tolford, a potter, was born & raised in Evanston. Her great (X6) grandfather served in the IL House of Representatives (1820s). Malaika & her kids split time between St. Louis & the family centennial farm in Paris, IL. Raised in Chicago Serhii Chrucky is a notable photographer & graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago. Michael Powell led the flag design team.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-This flag is inspired by key elements of the State Seal. The blue represents the rivers & lakes that flow through IL. Green represents IL's natural areas. The yellow field represents the state's agricultural tradition. Lastly, 2 stars rise above the horizon. The outer star is a 21-point star (the 21st state) & represents the unity & optimism of all the state's peoples. The 8-pointed star represents indigenous communities & pays homage to their foundational role in the state's history

3894

Relationship to Illinois

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation has roots in IL. Although we relinquished 28 million acres of our land in the Great Lakes region to the US government as part of the Treaty of Chicago, we didn't relinquish our 1,280-acre Reservation in what is now DeKalb County. Despite this, the U.S. government illegally auctioned off our land in the 1800s. This year, 175 years later, IL once again became home to a sovereign Tribal Nation, making it the 35th state with a federally recognized Indian Reservation.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

-Prairie grass reflects Native land on which the state has been built-The eagle soaring with its wings spread signifies a freeing of the eagle on the current IL flag because IL is once again home to a Tribal Nation. Eagles are traditionally considered sacred and powerful.-Four feathers commonly represent the four directions of wind and four seasons-The color, turquoise seen in Prairie Band's own logo, represents protection, healing, and a merging of the sky and earth

3895

Relationship to Illinois

As a lifelong resident, I've grown up deeply rooted in the land of Lincoln's rich history. I spent my childhood in both Chicago and Skokie, and after graduating the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, I moved back to Chicago. To me, Illinois embodies the warmth and resilience of the Midwest - a place where community and diversity thrive. From its iconic prairies to its bustling cities, Illinois is home. A home that honors hard work, inclusivity, and history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

White field: representing Abraham Lincoln's legacy of peace and unity
The center "I" column: represents Illinois
Three broken arrowheads: Drawn from native Illini tapestry designs, symbolizing three historical eras of Illinois: Native, French colonial, USA
Blue: The water bodies bounding Illinois
Orange: Illinois agriculture

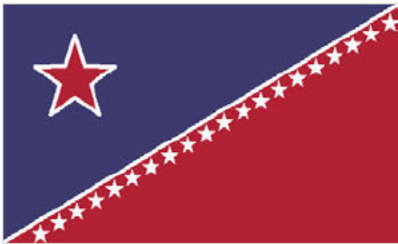
3896

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since March of 2023

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The upper-left has an Old Glory Red (hex #BF0A30) star outlined in White (hex #FFFFFF), the largest of 21, representing Illinois as the Union's 21st state. This star is on a field of Old Glory Blue (hex #002868), representing Illinois natural bounty on both land and water. The lower-right is a field of red representing Illinois' industrious and inventive people. Along the top diagonal of the red field are 20 white stars, representing the Union. A white line separates the two fields, for progress.



3897



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and I think that the state of Illinois is a grate state because we have a free will and rights.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has 13 red and white strips with a circle in the middle with 5 stars witch represents the 50 stars, then a eagle in the middle with a shield with the 5th star on it, and the other 4 stars are on the outside of the circle. I did this flag to represent the Illinois flag and the American flag.

3898



Relationship to Illinois

As a lifelong resident, I've grown up deeply rooted in the land of Lincoln's rich history. I spent my childhood in both Chicago and Skokie, and after graduating the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, I moved back to Chicago. To me, Illinois embodies the warmth and resilience of the Midwest - a place where community and diversity thrive. From its iconic prairies to its bustling cities, Illinois is home. A home that honors hard work, inclusivity, and history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White field: representing Abraham Lincoln's legacy of peace and unity
The center "I" column: represents Illinois
Three broken arrowheads: Drawn from native Illini tapestry designs, symbolizing three historical eras of Illinois: Native, French colonial, USA
Red: Illinois' allegiance to the Union of the United States

3899

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-This flag is inspired by key elements of the State Seal. The blue represents the rivers and lakes that flow through IL. Green represents IL's natural areas. The yellow field represents the state's agricultural tradition. Lastly, a star motif connects and unifies the fields together. The 8-pointed star represents indigenous communities and honors their foundational role in the state's history.

3900

Relationship to Illinois

As a lifelong resident, I've grown up deeply rooted in the land of Lincoln's rich history. I spent my childhood in both Chicago and Skokie, and after graduating the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, I moved back to Chicago. To me, Illinois embodies the warmth and resilience of the Midwest - a place where community and diversity thrive. From its iconic prairies to its bustling cities, Illinois is home. A home that honors hard work, inclusivity, and history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

White field: representing Abraham Lincoln's legacy of peace and unity
The center "I" column: represents Illinois
Blue: The water bodies bounding Illinois
Orange: Illinois agriculture

3901



Relationship to Illinois

Life-long resident of Effingham, Illinois. Our state should be celebrated for it's culture, entertainment, productivity, diversity, natural features, and values.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

While we aren't "the Gateway to the West", looking west at sunset from Illinois in 1818 saw enormous promise for the as-yet complete country. The violet is a color of unity, and that of the namesake state flower. The gold is for the harvest, of which almost none are as rich as Illinois'. The rays of the sun count 13, and are reflected in the land, for the 13 native tribes who preceded the formation of our state.

3902



Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Chicago and graduated from Illinois State University. Illinois is and always has been my proud home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This Illinois flag design draws inspiration from the Springfield, IL flag. Centered is a traditional 5-point star escorted in a somewhat Vic formation by five gold stars. There are two gold eight-point stars totaling 16 points representing Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President. Three 7-point stars totaling 21 points celebrate Illinois as the 21st state. Blue symbolizes the body of waters that help define the Illinois borders, red represents sacrifices, and gold represents the prairies.

3903



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. Something great about Illinois is the amount of sports teams and all of the attractions.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has 9 stars for the 8 Chicago sports teams with the colors with red stripes and blue on the outside near the stars.

3904

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Iowa; Raised as a Cubs and Bears fan; Moved to Illinois in 1978; Permanent resident since, both in Chicago and the North suburbs; Received 3 degrees from Northwestern University; Have traveled throughout the State, including Springfield and Carbondale; Worked for the City of Chicago from 1994 to 2022.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Everywhere in Illinois should be seen as both a starting point and a destination, from the lights of its cities to the back roads of its farmland. My design serves as a reminder that Illinois is a leader in both commerce and agriculture but also that it is a welcome home to an exceptionally diverse group of citizens.

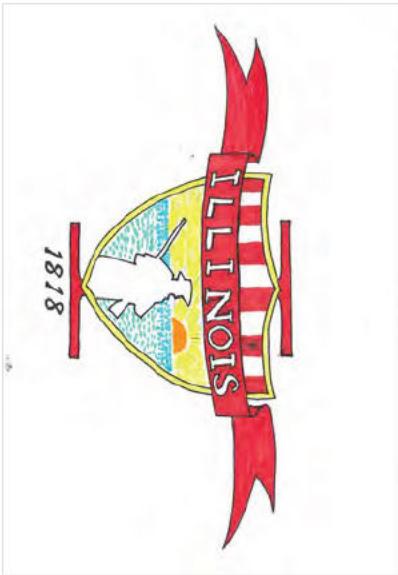
3905

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised Joliet IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

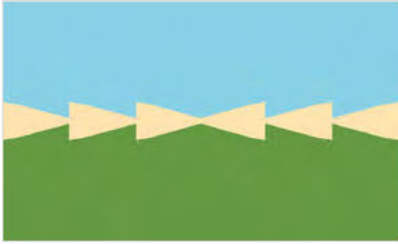
Sorry for my last min School House Rock hand drawn last min submission. Louis Joliet inspired along with the current state flag. I really like the current flag, The eagle is a symbol of freedom and power. My inspiration is the current flag using the crest, ribbon, making it simple. Thanks



3906

Relationship to Illinois

Hello, neighbor. My grandparents migrated to Illinois from Poland and Germany before WWII, where they built a new life and raised my parents. My family and I carry on this legacy rooted in the prairie. Today, as a partner in a small Illinois business, I'm surrounded by people committed to improving life here. My immigrant grandparents saw Illinois as a land of good neighbors and boundless possibilities*two generations later, I can say that they were correct.



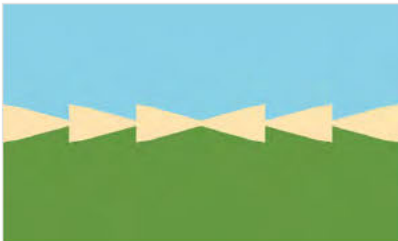
Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's sky-blue field over prairie-green represents the vast, flat lands we now call Illinois*a place with many names and many people who have called it home. At the center, a pattern of hide-colored triangle motifs honors the fact this is the ancestral homelands of many tribal nations. These triangles, converging at a central point, symbolize the connection between past and future, as a reminder of both heritage and the path forward.

3907

Relationship to Illinois

Hello, neighbor. My grandparents migrated to Illinois from Poland and Germany before WWII, where they built a new life and raised my parents. My family and I carry on this legacy rooted in the prairie. Today, as a partner in a small Illinois business, I'm surrounded by people committed to improving life here. My immigrant grandparents saw Illinois as a land of good neighbors and boundless possibilities*two generations later, I can say that they were correct.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

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3908

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, born & raised in southern Illinois in the small town of Du Quoin, Illinois, known for the Du Quoin State Fair. After attending Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, I made my way north and eventually landed in Chicago where I have been a practicing architect for 18 years. I have an appreciation for the natural beauty and bounty that the state offers, as well as its urban richness, diversity, and architectural marvels.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The horizontal plane represents what you see most of when traveling across the states-- fields, green for the growing season when crops are lush. The blue swath at the left represents two things --the verticality of Illinois' cities, in particular Chicago, as well as the great waterways that bind the state to the northeast and to the west, Lake Michigan & the Mississippi River. The hint of red is drawn from the state bird, the cardinal.

3909

Relationship to Illinois

Hello, neighbor. My grandparents migrated to Illinois from Poland and Germany before WWII, where they built a new life and raised my parents. My family and I carry on this legacy rooted in the prairie. Today, as a partner in a small Illinois business, I'm surrounded by people committed to improving life here. My immigrant grandparents saw Illinois as a land of good neighbors and boundless possibilities*two generations later, I can say that they were correct.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag's sky-blue field over prairie-green represents the vast, flat lands we now call Illinois*a place with many names and many people who have called it home. At the center, a pattern of hide-colored triangle motifs honors the fact this is the ancestral homelands of many tribal nations. These triangles, converging at a central point, symbolize the connection between past and future, as a reminder of both heritage and the path forward.

3910

Relationship to Illinois

I am [REDACTED] a student at Neuqua Valley High School who is currently enrolled in a computer graphics class.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design uses the symbolic Illinois colors hunter green and old glory blue. There are 21 stars to show that Illinois was the 21st state to be established. The Mississippi river trails along the side, which runs through most of the western part of Illinois. Since Illinois's state flower is the violet, the shape of one sits in the center of the 21 stars.

3911

Relationship to Illinois

I am proud to have been born and raised in Illinois! After some time on the west coast, I am happy to be back living in Illinois!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The negative space of the design creates the letter "I". The blue represents the waterways, the great rivers and of course our coast along the Great Lake, Lake Michigan. The green represents our beautiful and varied landscape. The moon is a symbol for Illinois' great history, the star shines for the future of Illinois.

3912

Relationship to Illinois

I am 7 years old and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I love the Shedd Aquarium!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has a pumpkin because Illinois is the pumpkin state (it grows the most pumpkins).



3913

Relationship to Illinois

I am 7 years old and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I love the Shedd Aquarium!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew corn because Illinois grows a lot of corn.



3914

Relationship to Illinois

Growing up, I awoke to a full view of the sun rising over the Illinois prairie every morning. I was raised on a rural property outside of Champaign and have lived here ever since. I'm now a third-generation University of Illinois graduate and a second-generation architect. I run a women-owned architecture firm that specializes in local public work. I'm also married to an Illinoisan and I'm a proud Mom to two girls. My designs reflect what I believe to be the spirit of our great state, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sunrise symbolizes our optimistic attitude and celebrates our prairie horizons. The wavy blue line represents our major rivers and their industrial impact. The green area represents the forest and hills in Southern Illinois. The yellow area represents the farmland in Central Illinois and our agricultural heritage. The blue area represents our Great Lake in Northern Illinois. The six-pointed star symbolizes Chicago and its geography. The white color symbolizes light and our bright future.



3915

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong resident of the northwest suburbs of Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois flag concept features elements that symbolize the great history, beauty and future of the state of Illinois. A) 21 White/Yellow stripes represent the 21st state. B) Stars: Center- Abraham Lincoln / Top-Chicago / Bottom-Springfield C) Quadrants: Upper left-Represents the bright horizon that welcomes the future. Lower left-The Mississippi River and the role it played in making Illinois. Upper right-Lake Michigan and its commerce. Lower right-Fields of grains/open prairie land.

3916



Relationship to Illinois

I am 6 years old and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I like to visit the Choo Choo cafe in Des Plaines.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew a half of a sun and also a moon because Illinois can have eclipses. I used green to represent grass. I also drew one corn stalk to represent Illinois agriculture.

3917



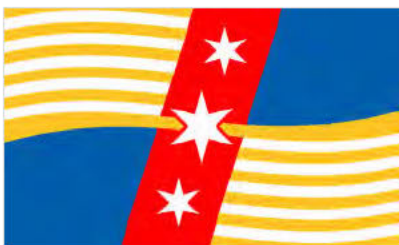
Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois. Graduated from Carpenter Elementary, Lincoln Junior High, Maine South High School and Eastern Illinois University -all Illinois schools.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Yellow represents sun, green for prairie. Blue represents the rivers forming our borders and the lakes, rivers in Illinois we use for recreation. Corn & soy beans-our major crops. Skyscraper from Chicago skyline. Lincoln our 16th President ang Grant Civil War Commander (accepted Lee's surrender) and President. Our national symbol the Bald Eagle.. Then "Prairie State" motto.

3918



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong resident of the northwest suburbs of Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois flag concept two features elements that symbolize the great history, beauty and future of the state of Illinois. A) 21 White/Yellow stripes represent the 21st state. B) Stars: Center-Abraham Lincoln / Top-Chicago / Bottom-Springfield C) Quadrants: Upper left-Represents the bright horizon that welcomes the future. Lower left-The Mississippi River and the role it played in making Illinois. Upper right-Lake Michigan and its commerce. Lower right-Fields of grains/open prairie land.

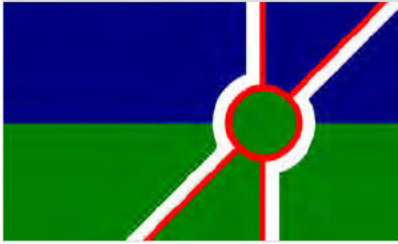
3919

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, born & raised in southern Illinois in the small town of Du Quoin, Illinois, known for the Du Quoin State Fair. After attending Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, I made my way north and eventually landed in Chicago where I have been a practicing architect for 18 years. I have an appreciation for the natural beauty and bounty that the state offers, as well as its urban richness, diversity, and architectural marvels.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag was inspired by both the rural and urban aspects of Illinois. The horizontal plains where crops are grown is referenced at the green swath along the bottom, but the design is also inspired by the 6-pointed intersections at so many of streets in my adopted city of Chicago & the roundabouts in the other smaller cities & towns. Illinois is a hub of the Midwest, offering a point to travel to and through for many people. The green & red node overlaid at the intersection represents this.



3920

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy that has lived in Decatur IL my whole life. I attend Meridian Middle School and I am in the 8th Grade. I like to play baseball, football, basketball, and track.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The deer is the main part that is our state animal. At the top is an outline of the city skyline in Chicago. On the bottom it is the agriculture part of our state flipped. Corn to represent the corn production in our state. I used a shield to symbolize our government protecting us. I used brown for the deer because deer are brown and white for the tail because its a white-tail deer. I used green on the tractor to represent John Deere and how he represents farming in Illinois. I used red, whit



3921



Relationship to Illinois

I am 6 years old and have lived in Illinois my whole life. I like to visit the Choo Choo cafe in Des Plaines.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew a tornado because Illinois has lots of tornados. I drew pumpkins because Illinois is the Pumpkin State!

3922



Relationship to Illinois

While I was raised and went to college in Missouri, I have proudly been a Chicago, Illinois resident since 2017 and have convinced several of my closest friends and sisters to join me in happily building a life here in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design proudly owns Illinois's heritage as The Prairie State. The central stalk is based on the shapes of native Illinois prairie grasses. The rising sun references the state's current flag and has 20 rays, with the top of the grass stalk as the 21st point, representing Illinois as the 21st state. Curving yellow hills and blue sky show the state's natural beauty, and the symmetrical opening of the hills and rays give the design an open, optimistic feel like the welcoming spirit of Illinois.

3923



Relationship to Illinois

I'm an Illinois native, born in Sycamore, IL. I grew up in DeKalb, went to school at Northern Illinois University, and currently live in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two stars represent Illinois' dual nature: a six-pointed star in the top right for Chicago, drawing from the city's flag, while a five-pointed star in the lower left represents the state's 1,300 municipalities, drawing from the flag of Springfield. To the hoist side, a wavy field represents the Mississippi (in Springfield blue), while to the fly side, a straight blue field represents Lake Michigan (in Chicago cyan). The white background is a nod to the white of the original Illinois flag.

3924



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived here for all my life. My dad was born here and went to college here along with my mom. My grandparents also have a house in rural Illinois near Galena.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the middle I put corn stalks because Illinois grows a lot of corn. I put three stripes on the flag, one going up and down on the top and the other two going diagonal from the bottom. This was meant to represent a peace symbol. I put seven stars on each stripe because seven multiplied by three is twenty-one. I did this because Illinois was the twenty first state to join the Union.

3925



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red means success, the blue stands for the Illinois River, the green is for the prairie which the state is known for, and the stars symbolizes Chicago, its main source of income and what Illinois is most famous for. Although the stars have different meanings. First Star: the native tribe of the Illiniwek Second Star: The Emancipation Proclamation (Illinois was the first state to ratify it) Third Star: Great Chicago Fire Fourth Star: The birth of the atomic age

3926

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 2007, coming here after college. I run a small design studio in Chicago, with many of my clients based in the city. My family lives in Sauganash, where my wife and I are raising our kids in the same neighborhood she grew up in. I've been involved in the local design community, serving as the former president of the Society of Typographic Arts and currently as a board member of the Design Museum of Chicago. This project holds personal significance to me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This proposed flag features an abstract "I" in "Old Glory Blue" at its center, symbolizing the state's geographic and cultural importance in the Midwest. The blue stripe represents Illinois' key waterways, including Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The green stripe honors the state's nickname, the "Prairie State," celebrating its natural landscapes and agricultural heritage, highlighting Illinois' deep connection to its environment and resources. More Info:

<https://tinyurl.com/2xusz5h6>

3927

Relationship to Illinois

We have always lived in Illinois!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The purple is violet, which is the Illinois flower. And the red is for the cardinal, Illinois bird. And the white is for the white tailed deer (state animal) and the white oak (state tree).



3928

Relationship to Illinois

I am Alisha Bilal, a student at Neuqua Valley High School currently enrolled in a computer graphics class.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design for the Illinois Flag competition depicts a silhouette of Chicago. Behind this are a yellow color similar to symbolize a field and Illinois's symbolic color Old Glory blue.



3929

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, born & raised in southern Illinois in the small town of Du Quoin, Illinois, known for the Du Quoin State Fair. After attending Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, I made my way north and eventually landed in Chicago where I have been a practicing architect for 18 years. I have an appreciation for the natural beauty and bounty that the state offers, as well as its urban richness, diversity, and architectural marvels.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag was inspired by the Polish flag. As a proud descendant of Polish immigrants, I have always loved the simplicity of the Polish flag. For this design, the green is inspired by the fact that Illinois' greatest resource is in fact its fertile soil. As a daughter & granddaughter of farmers, I am so proud of the significant contribution that farmers & Illinois' crops make to the country as a whole. This design is the purest representation of those fertile soils.

3930

Relationship to Illinois

I am currently a student in the city of Chicago, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag is important because it symbolizes the relationship of Illinois and the United States. The stars, stripes and the colors red and blue are a reconfiguration of the American flag while the gold is symbolic to the many fields of beautiful golden corn grown in Illinois. The Image of Lincoln is to pay tribute to Illinois' nickname: the land of Lincoln.



3931

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong resident of the northwest suburbs of Chicago



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois flag concept three features elements that symbolize the great history, beauty and future of the state of Illinois. A) 21 White/Yellow stripes represent the 21st state. B) Stars: Center- Abraham Lincoln / Top-Chicago / Bottom-Springfield C) Red Stripe: The "blood" that binds everything together D) Halves: Right-Fields of grains/open prairie land. Left-Waters of the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan-The commerce they bring and the role they played to the young growing state.

3932

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 2007, coming here after college. I run a small design studio in Chicago, with many of my clients based in the city. My family lives in Sauganash, where my wife and I are raising our kids in the same neighborhood she grew up in. I've been involved in the local design community, serving as the former president of the Society of Typographic Arts and currently as a board member of the Design Museum of Chicago. This project holds personal significance to me.



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3933



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3934



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state of Illinois my entire life. I was born in Peoria and I currently live in Peoria. I briefly lived outside of Peoria while I attended Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois. I enjoy traveling around the state to visit all of the beautiful parks and trails the state has to offer as well as visiting the great city of Chicago to experience its wealth of culture and entertainment.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 stars have 21 total points signifying Illinois as the 21st state admitted into the Union. The red stripe signifies our motto - "State Sovereignty, National Union" that waves on red in the current state flag. The blue stripe is symbolic of our relation to great rivers and lakes. Stars in Gold for our Prairie State nickname.

3935

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Neuqua Valley High School student doing an assignment to create a flag for my state. I have been a resident of Illinois for 18 years, my whole life. I've been pretty content with the state, almost admiring its quiet presence here in the U.S...



Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the middle is the pirogue kayak, a hollowed-out tree trunk made by native Americans who were the first in Illinois. The branches on the side almost emitting a circle, are the antlers of a white-tailed deer. The color choices of the vexillography were to resemble the U.S.'s patriotism. Unfortunately I simply had no more time left to work on this flag for the assignment, So I had to wrap pretty briefly on this. The flag could've been better.

3936

Relationship to Illinois

Growing up, I awoke to a full view of the sun rising over the Illinois prairie every morning. I was raised on a rural property outside of Champaign and have lived here ever since. I'm now a third-generation University of Illinois graduate and a second-generation architect. I run a women-owned architecture firm that specializes in local public work. I'm also married to an Illinoisan and I'm a proud Mom to two girls. My designs reflect what I believe to be the spirit of our great state, Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sunrise symbolizes our optimism and celebrates our prairie horizons. The outline of Abraham Lincoln symbolizes equality and honors his legacy. The blue line represents our major rivers and their industrial impact. The green area represents the forests and hills of Southern Illinois. The yellow sun represents the farmland in Central Illinois and our agricultural heritage. The blue area represents our Great Lake in Northern Illinois. The white star symbolizes Chicago and our bright future.

3937

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident. I was born in Illinois, grew up in New Lenox, lived and worked in Tinley Park for some years, and recently relocated to Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe represents northern Illinois and Lake Michigan. The white stripe represents central Illinois and recalls the current flag. The golden stripe represents southern Illinois and it's most important economic activity, farming, especially corn. I've reimagined the banner in the eagle's mouth from the seal as a red circle with 20 stars. The central 6-pointed star represents Illinois' largest city, Chicago. This brings the total to 21, representing Illinois' status as the 21st state.



3938

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Happy times!



3939

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Knowledge and Understanding "Harnessing knowledge and understanding in the streets of Illinois, we pave the way for positive change and a brighter tomorrow. Let's continue to inspire and uplift our community together."



3940

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents Illinois' waterways and its original commitment to the Union. The green represents our longstanding agriculture prowess. The yellow is a nod to the sun in the State Seal, the great amounts of corn grown in the State. The flag contains 21 stars as Illinois is the 21st State. There are 20 smaller stars circling a large star, #21, which represents Illinois. Inside the large star is an eagle which is a nod to Illinois current flag and a banner with 1818, Illinois admission date.



3941

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 2007, coming here after college. I run a small design studio in Chicago, with many of my clients based in the city. My family lives in Sauganash, where my wife and I are raising our kids in the same neighborhood she grew up in. I've been involved in the local design community, serving as the former president of the Society of Typographic Arts and currently as a board member of the Design Museum of Chicago. This project holds personal significance to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This proposed flag features a vertical "Old Glory Blue" stripe on the hoist side with 21 stars. The 20 stars represent the first 20 states, while the larger central star symbolizes Illinois as the 21st state, highlighting its position in the Midwest. To the right, three horizontal stripes showcase Illinois' key features: blue for its waterways, white for peace and unity, and green representing its identity as the "Prairie State" and rich natural landscape. More Info: <https://tinyurl.com/2s4445nk>



3942



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago. Chicago is my home. It's where I go to school, where my family lives, and where I was born. Chicago is my city.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the fields and crops, the blue rivers the Mississippi and the corn is our biggest crop.

3943

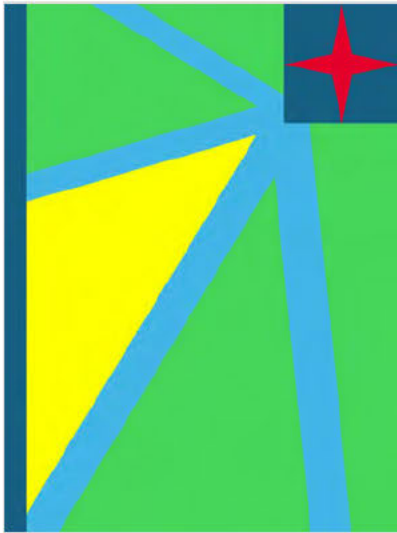


Relationship to Illinois

Growing up, I awoke to a full view of the sun rising over the Illinois prairie every morning. I was raised on a rural property outside of Champaign and have lived here ever since. I'm now a third-generation University of Illinois graduate and a second-generation architect. I run a women-owned architecture firm that specializes in local public work. I'm also married to an Illinoisan and I'm a proud Mom to two girls. My designs reflect what I believe to be the spirit of our great state, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The weaving pattern symbolizes the connection between our diverse communities and the strength of our workforce. At the center of the intersection lies a capital 'I' as a symbol of our unity and togetherness. The gold stripes represent our fields of prairie and our rich agricultural heritage. The blue stripes represent the industrial history of our major rivers and Great Lake. The blue backdrop represents our optimism and traditions. The white star symbolizes Chicago and our bright future ahead.



3944

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen born in Illinois.

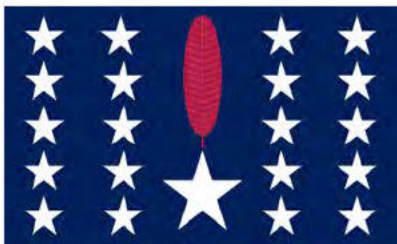
Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have it in a vertical position to match the North South length of the state. On the left side of the flag is a blue strip representing the Mississippi River. In the top right corner is a blue square representing Lake Michigan with a four-pointed star representing Chicago. In the middle of the flag, I have blue stripes representing waterways and highways across the state. In the middle of the flag there is a yellow triangle In-between the stripes to represent farm fields in the state.

3945

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life, as have my parents, and grandparents. All of my great-grandparents called Illinois home, and 12 of my 16 great-great grandparents lived in Illinois



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features 21 stars for Illinois as the 21st state, with 105 points on the stars representing its 102 counties and 3 capitals. A cardinal feather honors Native American tribes and the state bird, with 18 divisions on each side marking Illinois' founding in 1818. The blue field echoes Civil War regimental flags and the fight for freedom for all peoples. The red, white, and blue color scheme symbolizes Illinois' loyalty to the United States and its enduring values

3946

Relationship to Illinois

My ancestry hails from the Midwest * my mother being from Kansas, and my father from Indiana. I was raised in Kankakee County, educated in Champaign County, began my career in DuPage County, and now live as a designer in Cook County. Illinois is my history, my blood and my life. I've always lived here. I wish for this great and beautiful state to be seen as the beacon of progress and natural wonder it is. I want its people to be seen and honored, and for its symbol to stand the test of time.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design balances vexillology rules, current flag references, modern design, and usability. It uses state vs federal symbols in ways all Illinoisians recognize. It omits politics or controversy. It also focuses on usability for easy replacement. Elements include: White oak tree (Growth/Strength/Natural beauty), Rising sun (Prosperity/Opportunity), Stars (State motto), Green (Upper/Lower state), Blue (Mississippi River/Lake Michigan), Yellow (Prairie land/State nickname), Red (Valor/Bravery).

3947

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy that lives in Decatur, IL. I am an 8th grader at Meridian Middle School in Macon, IL. I like to play football.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I did an image that is similar to the American flag. In the middle is a an outline of the state of Illinois. In depicts the sunrise and sunset that can be seen looking over our great state. Inside of that sunrise are the words Land of Lincoln showing our connection to the great 16th president. In the middle is an illustration of the Chicago city skyline and then under that the fields that are seen covering our great state.



3948

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since 2007, coming here after college. I run a small design studio in Chicago, with many of my clients based in the city. My family lives in Sauganash, where my wife and I are raising our kids in the same neighborhood she grew up in. I've been involved in the local design community, serving as the former president of the Society of Typographic Arts and currently as a board member of the Design Museum of Chicago. This project holds personal significance to me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features five diagonal stripes representing Illinois' geography and values. The green stripe symbolizes the "Prairie State," the upper blue stripe represents Lake Michigan, and the lower blue stripe signifies the Mississippi River. White stripes stand for peace and unity. At the center is a 21-pointed star, representing Illinois as the 21st state, while also evoking wheat to honor the state's agricultural roots and significance. More Info: <https://tinyurl.com/2btsjjab>

3949

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has always been a home to me and my immigrant family. I was born in 2002 in Bloomington, IL, and raised in Mahomet, where I experienced the essence of being an Illinoisan while living the American dream. Growing up in a preservation surrounded by cornfields, allowed me to connect with our state's birds, insects, and flora daily. In our small village, my family opened a beloved Mexican restaurant that became a cherished gathering place in our tight-knit community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag showcases two bold blue stripes, symbolizing Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. At the center, a cardinal*our state bird*is set against a rising gold sun, representing agricultural abundance and the promise of growth. The cardinal embodies vitality and hope, while three ascending buildings at the end of its tail symbolize the world's first skyscraper and the ambitious future of our cities. Together, these elements reflect our rich heritage, natural beauty, and promising future.

3950

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Springfield Illinois and grew up in Menard county near Petersburg Illinois. The woods behind my parents house sat up against the nature preserve set aside as part of New Salem State Park, and I have always loved the forests and prairies of our state. For most of my adult life my career took me to other parts of the country and world. But, as technology began to allow work to be done remotely a I found myself drawn back and two years ago bought a house in my home town of Petersburg.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to find a way to allude to the beauty of our state. The wide open spaces, a breeze blowing over the fields and a prairie sunset. Adding a cardinal, our state bird, as the spirit of all this felt right. I hope when people see this they are reminded of the wonders of this place we call home and all it has to offer.

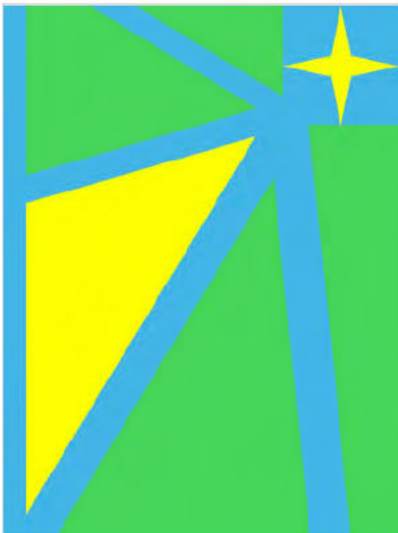
3951

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen born in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have it in a vertical position to match the North South length of the state. On the left side is a blue strip representing the Mississippi River. In the top right corner is a blue square representing Lake Michigan with a four-pointed star representing Chicago. In the middle of the flag, I have blue stripes representing waterways and highways across the state. In the middle of the flag there is a yellow triangle In-between the stripes to represent farm fields in the state. Limited to 3 colors.



3952

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Albuquerque and raised in Indiana, I've navigated a mix of cultures and landscapes. Growing up in Northwest Indiana, I came to appreciate Midwestern values like hard work and community. Now, having moved to Illinois, I see it as a state rich in history and diversity, with Chicago's vibrant energy offering both excitement and inspiration. This transition feels like a natural progression, allowing me to blend my past experiences with the opportunities that Illinois has to offer.



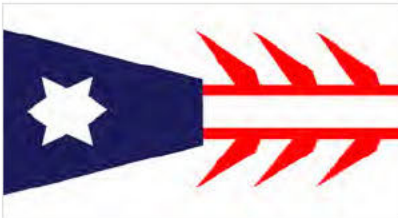
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design incorporates elements from the original Illinois flag, featuring a single star that represents "state sovereignty, national union," echoing the original design's significance. The ribbon matches the star's color, reinforcing this unity. The dark blue reflects the Midwestern spirit, while the light blue symbolizes the Mississippi River, which defines Illinois' border and shape. This combination emphasizes both state pride and the natural beauty that shapes our identity.

3953

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised and grew up in Springfield, and am currently studying animation in Chicago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents the duality of urban and rural/small town Illinois, with the blue representing the urban part, and the red representing the rural. When flipped sideways to the left, the design resembles the John Hancock tower, with the two antennae having spurs coming out of them that resemble stems of corn. There is also a 6 point star and 6 spurs along the red antennae. The 6 represents the top 6 biggest non-suburb cities: Chicago, Rockford, Springfield, Peoria, Champaign, and Bloomington.

3954

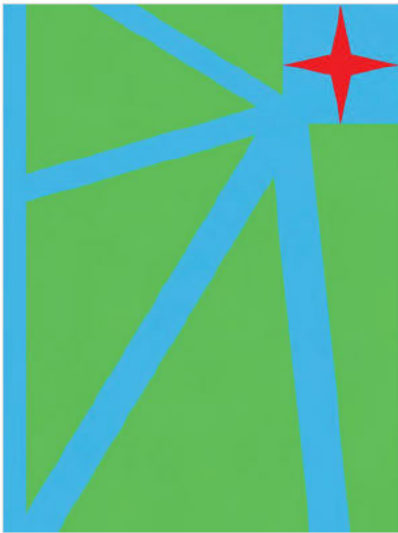


Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is a nod to Illinois' Centennial flag. The blue field represents Illinois waterways and its strong commitment to the Union. The 20 red stars represent the 20 states admitted to the Union before Illinois while the larger white star, #21, represents Illinois.



3955

Relationship to Illinois

I am a citizen born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have it in a vertical position to match the North South length of the state. On the left side of the flag is a blue strip representing the Mississippi River. In the top right corner is a blue square representing Lake Michigan with a four-pointed star representing Chicago. In the middle of the flag, I have blue stripes representing waterways and highways across the state. The majority of the flag is green to represent farm fields in the state. 3 color limit.

3956

Relationship to Illinois

Hello, neighbor. My grandparents migrated to Illinois from Poland and Germany before WWII, where they built a new life and raised my parents. My family and I carry on this legacy rooted in the prairie. Today, as a partner in a small Illinois business, I'm surrounded by people committed to improving life here. My immigrant grandparents saw Illinois as a land of good neighbors and boundless possibilities*two generations later, I can say that they were correct.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's sky-blue field and prairie-green base are inspired by the vast, flat landscapes of Illinois. Stretching across the horizon is a hide-colored line, tapered in a one-point perspective, with a vanishing point at the center. This symbolizes the connection between past and future*a tribute to those who came before us and a promise of endless possibilities ahead.



3957

Relationship to Illinois

As I mentioned in my previous submission, I am enrolled as a junior in high school, and have lived in Illinois my entire life. After talking with my family about their design ideas (my mom designed one as well), I decided to make a more concise flag while contributing more meaning in the form of the grass graphics (showing off more of the prairie state).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For the center band I added blue to represent the rivers and lakes of the state, while adding smaller bands surrounding it to represent the grassy fields and bright sunny skies of Illinois. For a center I created a diamond design, surrounded by yellow and green, with grass rising up from the bottom to meet a white 8 pointed star representing the state capitol and government.



3958

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois resident, self-employed graphic artist, father, husband and local bike advocate



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star of the prairie: a graphic tribute to our famous son, Frank Lloyd Wright, father of the Prairie Style. Illinois is the "prairie state" and clearly the star of the midwest as all roads, trains, highways and planes lead to or cross through our state. The flag is bounded by the blue waterways that border the state. The flower is a native plant of the prairie - the prairie lily and is surrounded by the farm fields of our state.

3959

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has always been a home to me and my immigrant family. I was born in 2002 in Bloomington, IL, and raised in Mahomet, where I experienced the essence of being an Illinoisan while living the American dream. Growing up in a preservation surrounded by cornfields, allowed me to connect with our state's birds, insects, and flora daily. In our small village, my family opened a beloved Mexican restaurant that became a cherished gathering place in our tight-knit community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag showcases two bold blue stripes, symbolizing Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. At the center, a cardinal*our state bird*is set against a rising gold sun, representing agricultural abundance and the promise of growth. The cardinal embodies vitality and hope, while three ascending buildings at the end of its tail symbolize the world's first skyscraper and the ambitious future of our cities. Together, these elements reflect our rich heritage, natural beauty, and promising future.

3960

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has always been a home to me and my immigrant family. I was born in 2002 in Bloomington, IL, and raised in Mahomet, where I experienced the essence of being an Illinoisan while living the American dream. Growing up in a preservation surrounded by cornfields, allowed me to connect with our state's birds, insects, and flora daily. In our small village, my family opened a beloved Mexican restaurant that became a cherished gathering place in our tight-knit community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag showcases two bold blue stripes, symbolizing Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. At the center, a cardinal*our state bird*is set against a rising gold sun, representing agricultural abundance and the promise of growth. The cardinal embodies vitality and hope, while three ascending buildings at the end of its tail symbolize the world's first skyscraper and the ambitious future of our cities. Together, these elements reflect our rich heritage, natural beauty, and promising future.

3961

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in the state of Illinois my entire life. I was born in Peoria and I currently live in Peoria. I briefly lived outside of Peoria while I attended Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois. I enjoy traveling around the state to visit all of the beautiful parks and trails the state has to offer as well as visiting the great city of Chicago to experience its wealth of culture and entertainment.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star has 21 points signifying Illinois as the 21st state admitted into the Union. The gold/orange color for the star signifies our Prairie State nickname also a nod to the sun in our current state flag. Dark blue and orange is a common color scheme for Illinois schools and sports.

3962

Relationship to Illinois

Hello, neighbor. My grandparents migrated to Illinois from Poland and Germany before WWII, where they built a new life and raised my parents. My family and I carry on this legacy rooted in the prairie. Today, as a partner in a small Illinois business, I'm surrounded by people committed to improving life here. My immigrant grandparents saw Illinois as a land of good neighbors and boundless possibilities*two generations later, I can say that they were correct.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's sky-blue field and prairie-green base reflect the boundless, flat landscape of Illinois, where the earth meets the sky. A thin horizon line stretches across the center. It stands as a symbol of hope, growth, and the promise of endless opportunities that lie ahead.



3963

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This submission is a modified nod to Illinois centennial and sesquicentennial flags. The 20 red stars represent the 20 states admitted to the union before Illinois. The large orange star, #21, represents Illinois admission as the 21st State. The star is orange as it symbolizes enthusiasm and endurance. The dark blue is a nod to Illinois commitment to the Union. Green stands for our agriculturally prowess. Light blue for our large endless skies.



3964

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I would like to see an updated design on the flag for the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the large fields of corn and growth in the state of Illinois. The blue represents the sky. The white represents honesty. The 21 stars represent the fact that Illinois was the 21st state to join the USA.



3965



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I would like to see an updated design on the flag for the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the large fields of corn and growth of the state. The orange and purple represent the beautiful sunsets in Illinois. The yellow represents sunshine and happiness from the people of Illinois (or it could be white for honesty). The 21 stars represent the fact that Illinois was the 21st state to join the USA.

3966



Relationship to Illinois

I do not live in Illinois but have positive feelings from friends from there and my visits over the years, particularly Chicago where I ran the Chicago Marathon (and my brother once lived) and Champaign*Urbana where my uncle lived and worked for the University of Illinois. I was delighted with the history, architecture, and art of the big city as well as the wide-open landscape of parts of the state far from there. The friendly and welcoming attitude of people I met made a strong impression.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Rising sun signifies optimism, hope, 'illumination', beginnings
Rays come from a central spot, convey state's geography/cultural traditions
21 rays represent the state being 21st to join the Union
Star connects to US flag
Blue stands for the rivers and lakes
Green stands for the landscape, agriculture, home, and environment
Red ribbons in a circle stand in for state motto (as appearing on the State Seal)
Geometry of the stylized circle suggests community 'connection' and honors indigenous tribes

3967

Relationship to Illinois

I do not live in Illinois but have positive feelings from friends from there and my visits over the years, particularly Chicago where I ran the Chicago Marathon (and my brother once lived) and Champaign*Urbana where my uncle lived and worked for the University of Illinois. I was delighted with the history, architecture, and art of the big city as well as the wide-open landscape of parts of the state far from there. The friendly and welcoming attitude of people I met made a strong impression.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Rising sun signifies optimism, hope, 'illumination', nature, beginnings, and a new day
Rays come from a central spot, convey state's geography/cultural traditions
21 rays represent the state being 21st to join the Union
Blue stands for the rivers and lakes
Green stands for the landscape, agriculture, home, and environment
Red ribbons in a circle stand for state motto (as appearing on the State Seal)
Geometry of the stylized circle suggests community 'connection' and honors indigenous tribes



3968

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life. I would like to see an updated design on the flag for the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green represents the large fields of corn and growth of the state. The navy blue represents the night sky and is the same blue from the American flag which represents that everyone is equal. The white represents honesty. The 21 stars represent the fact that Illinois was the 21st state to join the USA.



3969

Relationship to Illinois

I've live in Illinois for nearly twenty years and my wife is a native born.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to preserve the seal because I think seals provide a opportunity to point out a few ideas about the state. For my flag, the seal shows a profile of the city of Chicago, complete with the Bean, but a road leading away from it, perhaps Route 66, to farmland with rows of soybean plants and a few pumpkins to one side--Illinois is the largest producer of pumpkins--under the protective visage of an American Bald Eagle. It honors both our city centers and our vital farmlands and rural areas.



3970

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Springfield Illinois and grew up in Menard county near Petersburg Illinois. The woods behind my parents house sat up against the nature preserve set aside as part of New Salem State Park, and I have always loved the forests and prairies of our state. For most of my adult life my career took me to other parts of the country and world. But, as technology began to allow work to be done remotely a I found myself drawn back and two years ago bought a house in my home town of Petersburg.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

We are a state of beautiful rolling fields and bountiful agriculture. I also took some inspiration from the Illinois Sesquicentennial design and Illinois place as the nation's twenty-first state. The two are placed together as a subtle allusion to the sun setting over the prairie as well as providing a nod to previous state flags. I have always loved the nature of Illinois and added a cardinal to represent the bountiful natural environment we are fortunate enough to have at our doorstep.



3971



Relationship to Illinois

Jamar Hall is a seventh grade student in Chicago. Jamar was born and raised in Illinois. I am his teacher, Ms. Rockwood.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Jamar Hall did this design. He said he was inspired by the great city of Chicago which is in Illinois. He has the oak leaves which are our state tree. He designed the almost similar to Chicago city flag inside the circle. The circle is unity and peace. He has the capital I for Illinois through out the image. He has the written words that mean a lot to him, sovereignty, national Union and land of Lincoln.

3972



Relationship to Illinois

I lived in Illinois for the first 50 years of my life. But, like hundreds of thousands of former tax-paying Illinois residents, my family and I have fled to a more sane state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Good and hard-working people of all ages, colors, genders, creeds, national origins are fleeing the fiscal irresponsibility and off-putting policies of a one-party state. Escape the People's Republic of Illinois before it's too late!

3973

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since the age of 6. I currently reside in Oak Park with my family. I am a proud alumni from the University of Illinois engineering program. Illinois has a wonderful history, culture, and natural wonders that we like to explore. The rich architectural, design, and technology heritage of Chicago and the state has influenced my passion for design and innovation. We have established roots in Illinois and want to contribute to the state's legacy.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

White field separated into three sections signifying north, central, and south regions of the states
Two blue lines signify Lake Michigan and the waterways that grew trade and commerce
Black lines surrounding the blue represent railroads and highways as important transportation infrastructure
The 21 point star represents Illinois as the 21st state and is yellow for agriculture, fertility, & prosperity
Horizontal orientation for the vast flat prairies across the state witnessed by early explorers

3974

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and raised in the Chicagoland suburbs. I met my husband, who grew up in North Pekin, while attending Western Illinois University. After graduation, I covered local news for papers in Lake County. We have raised our children here and taken them on many trips around the state to teach them about Illinois history, nature and culture. I'm also a member of Illinois State Organization NSDAR.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow background represents one of our most important crops from the indigenous Hopewell Community to present day. The blue diagonal represents the Illinois River, which with the help of the I&M Canal, once spanned across the entire state. A stalk of prairie grass arises from the ground, since we are the Prairie State. The flag embraces Illinois' history, nature and even culture. "By the rivers gently flowing, O'er the prairies verdant growing..."



3975

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong Chicago resident, born and raised.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design uses the American bald eagle as does our existing state flag. This time the eagle takes on the shape of Illinois flying in a sky blue field, with talons extended, ready to grasp unlimited opportunities this land has to offer



3976

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Aspen Clayton. I was born in Illinois, and I have spent my entire life as an Illinois resident. I am a fifteen-year-old high school freshman in the western suburbs of Chicago. My dad is also submitting a flag design for this competition.

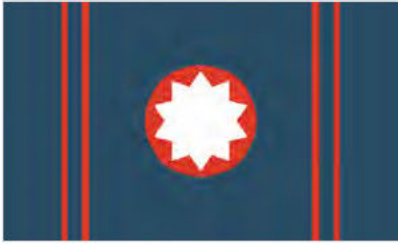
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The In Terra Flag contains many iconic elements of the landscape of Illinois. "In Terra" is Latin for "Of the Land." The flag's background is composed of a sample of a topographic map of the Illinois landscape. The pale blue within the circle alludes to the Chicago flag. The black buildings represent an urban skyline. The red star represents the setting sun. The white stripe represents the clouds. The blue below the cityscape represents Lake Michigan.

3977

Relationship to Illinois

Born & raised in Evanston, I grew up exploring the beaches of Lake Michigan * camping & fishing in the collar counties. An 8th-grade trip to Springfield gave me a firsthand look at our state government and Lincoln's legacy. In high school, I would travel cross state by train to visit my brother at school in St. Louis. I'm a proud University of Illinois at Chicago alum * BFA in Graphic Design. Today, I live and work in Chicago's Logan Square, where I continue my practice as an artist and designer.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Prairie Star*an icon for state unity & pride. 10-PT STAR: Represents 9 "sub-states," +1 point to honor Indigenous peoples pre-statehood. SUN: star, also a sun*agriculture, source of life, to grow the crops to feed all. 2 NAVY BARS: Lake Michigan & Mississippi River, connecting through the state & linking it globally via waterways. 4 RED BARS: country/state/county/town. COLORS: Navy*US flag, Union blue, honor to Lincoln, & Grant. Red*US flag, Indigenous art of Ill. Confederation.

3978

Relationship to Illinois

I originally grew up in Iowa with no intention of staying in the Midwest. After graduating from university, I moved overseas for a brief period to teach. After my contract was fulfilled, I ended up in Illinois thinking that it would be a brief stop to somewhere else; a place that would cradle me for a season. However, I fell in love with Illinois and have lived here for eight years now. I appreciate its focus on human and workers' rights, and I am proud of the liberties my state affords me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag represents the meeting of agriculture and industry. Illinois has a rich rural landscape but is also one of the birthplaces of industry in the US. With this in mind, I designed a field of farmland and violets represented by the green and violet stripes on the lower half of the flag. The 12 stripes represent 12 tribes of the Illiniwek native peoples, from which the state's name is derived. The red star cradled within the stripes represents industry, and makes reference to Chicago's flag.



3979

Relationship to Illinois

My wife was born in Illinois, and I've live in Illinois for almost twenty years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red, white and blue circle is symbolic of the U.S., with the unique light blue picking up on our Chicago origins in homage to the Chicago city flag.



3980

Relationship to Illinois

Soy hija de familia vivo con mis padres aqu* en Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Me gust* dibujar as* mi bandera porque hay muchos coyotes en el bosque.



3981

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's the Illinois State bird and the red is a symbol of the Chicago fire. The green is a symbol of farmland and the blue is a symbol of Lake Michigan

3982

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Springfield Illinois and grew up in Menard county near Petersburg Illinois. The woods behind my parents house sat up against the nature preserve set aside as part of New Salem State Park, and I have always loved the forests and prairies of our state. For most of my adult life my career took me to other parts of the country and world. But, as technology began to allow work to be done remotely a I found myself drawn back and two years ago bought a house in my home town of Petersburg.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to show Illinois' connection to the history of our country with an allusion to the flag of the original thirteen colonies as well as Illinois place in the growth of our nation as it's twenty-first state. We are also a land of beautiful prairie fields and rich agriculture. The red strips symbolize not just a connection to our nation flag but our bountiful farmland. The cardinal soaring through the sky representing the rich natural environment of this state we call home.

3983

Relationship to Illinois

My ancestry hails from the Midwest * my mother being from Kansas, and my father from Indiana. I was raised in Kankakee County, educated in Champaign County, began my career in DuPage County, and now live as a designer in Cook County. Illinois is my history, my blood and my life. I've always lived here. I wish for this great and beautiful state to be seen as the beacon of progress and natural wonder it is. I want its people to be seen and honored, and for its symbol to stand the test of time.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design balances vexillology rules, current flag references, modern design, and usability. It uses state vs federal symbols in ways all Illinoisians recognize. It omits politics or controversy. It also focuses on usability for easy replacement. Elements include: White oak tree (Growth/Strength/Natural beauty), Rising sun (Prosperity/Opportunity), Stars (State motto), Green (Upper/Lower state), Blue (Mississippi River/Lake Michigan), Yellow (Prairie land/State nickname), Red (Valor/Bravery).



3984

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 14 year old boy that lives in Macon, Illinois. I attend Meridian Middle School and I am currently in the 8th grade.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A banner hanging in the trees with cardinals sitting on the banner with a majestic river in the back. Cardinals for the state bird trees for the state tree (white oak) banner with red white and blue and a river for touch

3985

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for the last 5 years. I love this state and its many charms. I hope to do this state proud by putting forward a flag design that represents its beauty and values.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My proposed Illinois flag features a blue field representing the state's great waterways, including Lake Michigan, divided by a "Lincoln Green" line symbolizing Illinois' vast prairies. At the center is a 21-pointed star, signifying Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union. Inlaid within the star is a shield representing the state's motto. The lone star stands for state sovereignty, while the broader shield symbolizes national unity.

3986

Relationship to Illinois

Citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is a Swallowtail design, with a pall on it, representing the Illinois river, and how it splits into the Des Plaines River and Kankakee river, this also is to show that the flag covers all of Illinois, and not just the Greater Chicago Area. The Seal of Illinois also represents the same thing. The Yellow on top represents Corn, as we are the 2nd biggest producers of it, and the white represents and/or is a nod to the old Illinois flag, a white field with the Seal Centered in it.



3987

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinoisan. From my suburban upbringing, to education in Champaign, and current residence in Chicago, I love this state. I've seen Onarga and Waukegan and back. I have spent time all across the state and regularly lobby long-distance friends to move here. I intend to spend the rest of my days in this great state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Harvest Moon / Rising Sun No. 1" The center circle's orange half depicts a harvest moon, rising in the night sky above our prairies and illuminating golden fields below. On its inverse, a bright white sun rises over Lake Michigan to the North, casting a warm reflection across the cool water. The blue band and star are a reference to the 1918 Centennial Illinois Flag. The colors gold, orange, and blue represent our state's distinct communities: rural, suburban, and urban, respectively.



3988

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and grew up in Wood Dale. I have spent my whole life exploring Illinois from Chicago to Shawnee National Forest. It is an honor to be a part of this.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design highlights Illinois' central role in America's history. The "I" in the middle represents Illinois' geographical significance and acts as a pillar of America and a central hub. The gold color symbolizes the rich prairies and farmland that define our state. The blue sections on the left and right represent the major water sources: the Mississippi River & Lake Michigan. The 8-pointed stars commemorate Illinois' founding in 1818. The red is a nod to the American flag



3989

Relationship to Illinois

Kenniel is a resident of Illinois, as am I, his teacher, Dr. Sherri Silva

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stars stand for cities in Illinois. The blue background represent the protection the state provides for its citizens. The red back ground represents the sunset on the past as we look to the future.



3990

Relationship to Illinois

Born & raised in Evanston, I grew up exploring the beaches of Lake Michigan * camping & fishing in the collar counties. An 8th-grade trip to Springfield gave me a firsthand look at our state government and Lincoln's legacy. In high school, I would travel cross state by train to visit my brother at school in St. Louis. I'm a proud University of Illinois at Chicago alum * BFA in Graphic Design. Today, I live and work in Chicago's Logan Square, where I continue my practice as an artist and designer.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Variation to another submission. "The Prairie Star." This variation adds the text "ILLINOIS." Text on flags is generally discouraged but I believe this could be a nice variation to support the previous submission. The text could be included for flags for some use when helpful. It's both functional and also a wonderful nod to the current day flag. I imagine the "The Prairie Star" icon being used separate from flag, as a symbol of state pride on art, apparel, pins and stickers. (entry 2/3)

3991

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinoisan. From my suburban upbringing, to education in Champaign, and current residence in Chicago, I love this state. I've seen Onarga and Waukegan and back. I have spent time all across the state and regularly lobby long-distance friends to move here. I intend to spend the rest of my days in this great state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Harvest Moon / Rising Sun No. 2" The center circle's top half depicts a bright white sun rising over Lake Michigan, casting a warm reflection across the cool water. Below a harvest moon rises in the night sky above our prairies and illuminates golden fields below. The blue band and star reference the 1918 Centennial Illinois Flag. The flag is effectively a mirror and fully balanced. The colors gold, orange, and blue show our state's communities: rural, suburban, and urban, respectively.

3992

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois since the age of 6. I currently reside in Oak Park with my family. I am a proud alumni from the University of Illinois engineering program. Illinois has rich history, culture, and natural beauty that we love to explore. The architectural, design, and technology heritage of Chicago and the rest of the state has influenced my passion for design and innovation. We have established roots in the state and look forward to continued growth with our friends and family

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white field separated into 3 sections for the northern, central, & southern regions of the state
Two blue lines signify Lake Michigan and the waterways in the state to grow trade & commerce
The black lines surrounding the blue represent railroads and highways as important transportation infrastructure
The 21 point star for Illinois as the 21st state and is yellow for agriculture, fertility & prosperity
Horizontal influence for the vast flat prairies covering the state seen by early explorers



3993

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy that is from Macon, IL. I am an 8th grader at Meridian Middle School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Cardinals for the state bird trees for the state tree (white oak) banner with red white and blue and a river for touch



3994

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and have a personal connection to flagmaking, so I was extremely excited when this competition was revealed!!!-Robi (her son, 17yo)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Firstly, the field of white represents the vast diverse lands of Illinois, the blue stripe represents the waterways of Illinois, and the red represents the passion of the state's population and our connection to the United States. The yellow star represents unity, it's yellow represents the sunshine we get, and it has 21 points to symbolize that Illinois was the 21st state to join the United States. The convergence in the top right corner symbolizes Illinoisians coming together for the future.

3995

Relationship to Illinois

I live and work in the state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Hero graphic is of a Monarch Butterfly, which not only represents the state insect, but also acts as a symbol of transformation and rebirth while also honoring those that came before us 21 stars circled around the butterfly represent Illinois becoming the 21st state of the United States Word mark of the state name as well as the year the state was established

3996

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong Illinoisan. From my suburban upbringing, to education in Champaign, and current residence in Chicago, I love this state. I've seen Onarga and Waukegan and back. I have spent time all across the state and regularly lobby long-distance friends to move here. I intend to spend the rest of my days in this great state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Harvest Moon / Rising Sun No. 3" The right-aligned circle's orange depicts a harvest moon, rising in the night above our prairies and illuminating golden fields below. Mirrored, a bright white sun rises over Lake Michigan to the North, casting a warm reflection across the water. The number of stars and colors represent our state's three distinct communities. The stars total 21 points, to show Illinois' 21st statehood. This flag can be oriented both vertically and horizontally, if desired.

3997

Relationship to Illinois

Aiden is a resident of Illinois, as well as I am, his teacher Dr. Sherri Silva

Explain the meaning behind your flag

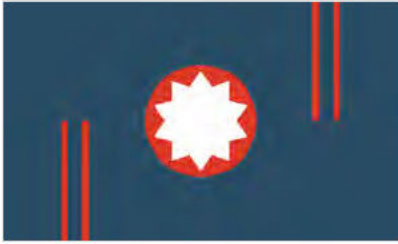
T.S.O.I. The State of Illinois The moonlight explains how some things are not perfect, yet the sun explodes reminding the most things do pretty nice in the beautiful state of Illinois.



3998

Relationship to Illinois

Born & raised in Evanston, I grew up exploring the beaches of Lake Michigan * camping & fishing in the collar counties. An 8th-grade trip to Springfield gave me a firsthand look at our state government and Lincoln's legacy. In high school, I would travel cross state by train to visit my brother at school in St. Louis. I'm a proud University of Illinois at Chicago alum * BFA in Graphic Design. Today, I live and work in Chicago's Logan Square, where I continue my practice as an artist and designer.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Variation to another submission. "The Prairie Star." This variation features the blue bars (left-Mississippi River, right-Lake Michigan) shortened as a dynamic gesture to symbolize the active connection of the waterways through the state, and works as a symbol for the people of the state coming together in unity under one flag. I believe "The Prairie Star" sun icon could be adapted and used apart from the flag as a symbol of state pride on art, apparel, pins and stickers. (entry 3/3)

3999

Relationship to Illinois

Live and work in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Took inspiration from the current Illinois flag and state seal by retaining the eagle. Additionally used the space within the silhouette of the eagle is wheat/prairie field to represent the agriculture of Illinois and its nickname, "the prairie state." Used blue to represent the bodies of water that surround Illinois, and the gold to represent the agriculture and a sense of prosperity. There are 21 stars to represent that Illinois is established as the 21st state around the border



4000

Relationship to Illinois



I was born and raised in Illinois. I'm currently in an Illinois college, Governors State University, as well as visited many parts of the state such as the city and more southern areas. With all this being said, I have a very happy and safe relationship to this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my flag I decided to create something that incorporated the old Illinois State Flag, as a way to honor our past as well as showing our progression, moving forward. I also decided to use the imagery of a deer, to show the sign of peace as well as being our state mammal.

4001

Relationship to Illinois



Live and work in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Took inspiration from the current Illinois flag and state seal but gave it more of the simplified look, so it doesn't feel as busy. The background color is white to also nod at the old flag, but to also give it a cleaner feel that will make it stand out when comparing to other state flags. The eagle is perched on a stone, holding the shield, which calls back to the state motto of "State Sovereignty, National Union" subtly without actually needing text on the flag. There are 21 stars to represent t

4002

Relationship to Illinois

required I was born and raised in Illinois. I'm currently in an Illinois college, Governors State University, as well as visited many parts of the state such as the city and more southern areas. With all this being said, I have a very happy and safe relationship to this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my flag I decided to create something that incorporated the old Illinois State Flag, as a way to honor our past as well as showing our progression, moving forward. I also decided to use the imagery of a deer, to show the sign of peace as well as being our state mammal.



4003

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 years old boy from Decatur, Illinois. I am in the 8th grade at Meridian Middle School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In red it says 1818 underneath is a red banner saying in god we trust, under neath that is a red white and blue eagle with one gold star inside, the 4 more stars, the words 21 21, and in teal are the words Illinios. The red represents the blood of those who fought for our freedom and the red white and blue represents the usa, and the teal represents the mississippi river, the five stars represents the four capitol building we've had, and the governor.



4004

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and bred in Illinois. I love my state my history and my people. I live my life to promote and embody the core values of Midwest grit, Chicago's raw classical values and Illinois friendly and funny culture. Weather it be boxing, music, art. I want to leave a impression on my civilization and let the world know we stand on business. We say what we mean and we mean what we say. When it's time for action "I will" hold my state on my big shoulders because that's the Chicago way!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The seven point star represents our good luck wealth and rich, economic tradition of our state including a Easter egg for the Chicago school of economics and center of commerce The white represents our kind, nature and funny disposition as well as our frozen winters. The black represents our raw, gritty attitude to not give up and to rebuild as well as a call back to the Great Chicago fire. It Also represents our world class farmland.



4005

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the small farm town of Harvard in Northern Illinois, where I spent my formative years. I attended college in Chicago, and Illinois has always been my home. I currently reside in Rockford, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The centerpiece of the flag features a golden cornstalk, symbolizing the vital role of agriculture in Illinois. The tassel, shaped like Chicago's iconic six-pointed star, represents the state's vibrant cities. Combining this iconography, showcases Illinois's diverse identity and unique balance between rural and urban. The light blue fields evoke Lake Michigan, a key resource for tourism and commerce, while the darker blue symbolizes the mighty Mississippi River, a crucial transportation route.





4006

Relationship to Illinois

Cole is a resident of Illinois, as I his teacher, Dr. Sherri Silva

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are not 50 stars, but should be. He made his design too small to fit them all. The blue background is the blue sky over Illinois. The red stars represent the 50 states that Illinois is part of. The eagle represents the freedom we have in the beautiful state of Illinois.

4007

Relationship to Illinois

requiredTwas born and raised in Illinois. I'm currently in an Illinois college, Governors State University, as well as visited many parts of the state such as the city and more southern areas. With all this being said, I have a very happy and safe relationship to this state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For my flag I decided to create something that incorporated the old Illinois State Flag, as a way to honor our past as well as showing our progression, moving forward. I also decided to use the imagery of a deer, to show the sign of peace as well as being our state mammal.



4008

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Chicago, IL and am a current Chicago resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark blue field in the bottom-left of the design represents the fertile soil of Illinois. The light blue stripe represents the Mississippi river, purposefully situated to the right of the land. The red, six-pointed star pays homage to the Chicago flag and also geographically represents Chicago.





Illinois Flag Commission Submissions



4009

Relationship to Illinois

Designed by [REDACTED] They are both 5th graders at Glenwood Intermediate School in Chatham, IL

Explain the meaning behind your flag

To show Illinois Pride, Culture & Friendship.



4010

Relationship to Illinois

I'm from NJ and grew up in the shadow of NYC, but IL is now home. During the pandemic, my wife and I had the opportunity to move anywhere in the US, and we chose this great state. Driving from Chicagoland to St. Louis, we've seen so much of the state, from vast farmland to forest preserves, local downtowns to Chicago neighborhoods, and there's so much more to explore. IL is full of heart and history. I now joke that I've always been a Midwesterner, I've just never lived in the right state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Dark Blue: strength; defend Union "Illini"
Orange: celebrate Native American history; prominence of agriculture
Light Blue: homage to Chicago flag; IL between Mississippi River + Lake Michigan
Gray Bars: horizontal: road/railway connections, commerce; vertical: 102° angle for all IL counties, progress toward new horizon; all: "I" for ILLINOIS, skyscraper I-beam
Concepts: IL central to history, commerce, innovation; horizon over heartland; skyscraper rising into sky; railway tracks cross country

4011

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a lifelong resident of Illinois since I was born here 28 years ago. I attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, I live in Chicago, and I work as an art director at a major advertising agency. I care deeply about the history of our state, and, as an independent film director, wish for nothing more than to put Illinois on the world stage. Since I was a child, I always loved and collected flags. It would be a great honor to have designed my state's flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design depicts a classic scene inspired by the Illinois prairie. The blue field above represents the sky, while the yellow field below represents the straw-coloration of tall grass, and our prowess in agriculture. The White Oak, our state tree, stands firmly in the middle, symbolizing the strength of the people of Illinois in culture, manufacturing, and commerce, as well as our stature within the Midwest. 21 stars surround the tree, commemorating our integration as the 21st state.

4012

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

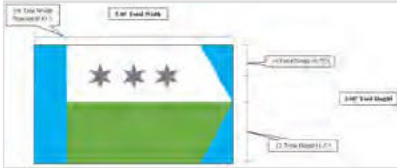


The flag symbolizes the flag of Chicago, as Chicago is the very famous city that people think of when they think of Illinois. The "star" on the left symbolizes O-Block. The "star" on the middle is the famous Abraham Lincoln, because Illinois is the land of Lincoln even though he was born in Kentucky. The star on the right symbolizes the famous style of pizza home to Chicago; the deep-dish style pizza. On the bottom is the word Illinois in corn, as Illinois is known for its vast corn fields.

4013

Relationship to Illinois

I am proud to call Illinois home for the majority of my life. I was born in Kewanee, and grew up on a farm near the small community of Mineral, Illinois. After finishing college in Wisconsin, I now currently reside on the Illinois side of the Quad Cities while working towards my professional engineering license. I've always held reverence for the state, with my family being deeply rooted in the state. Illinois is an economic, social, political, and cultural powerhouse which cannot be ignored.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design conveys everything that I feel encompasses the great state of Illinois. The light blue on the edges represents major waterways, which served historically as a major resource for growth and recreation and also currently form parts of the state's borders. The green in the bottom represents the strong agricultural hub the state is. The white represents the clear, crisp wind the state experiences. The three gray stars represent industry and three major events that define the state.

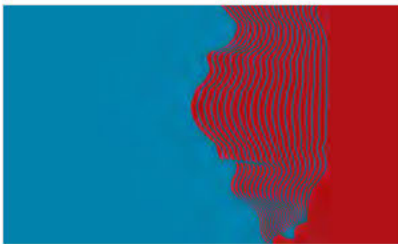
4014

Relationship to Illinois

I am a long time resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The deep blue field represents the waters of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi, Illinois, Ohio and Wabash rivers, which make up much of our borders. The red field represents the state bird the cardinal. The deep blue wave lines make up the state shape of Illinois.





4015

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy from Macon, Illinois. I attend Meridian Middle School. I am also in the 8th grade. I play multiple sports baseball, basketball, and track.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It looks like a red line starting from the top then white then red and it starts closing in with blue right triangles on both sides and then white then red then white then red, and then there is a blue rectangle at the bottom and there's a star in the triangle and then there's 4 stars in the right triangles. 2 stars on each right triangle. It looks like a red line starting from the top then white then red and it starts closing in with blue right triangles on both sides and then white then red

4016

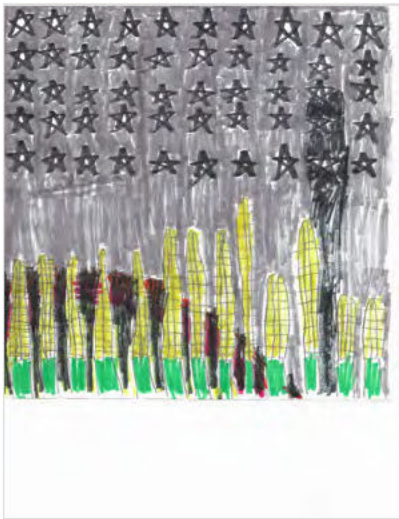
Relationship to Illinois

I am a former 50-year resident of Illinois. My family which now includes three college educated members, and two more presently n college, left the lunacy of Illinois for a more sane state in 2020.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Illinois" appears to be handwritten in crayon, because for the totality of my adult life, that's the level of intellect of the state's leaders. The state is colored red and plastered with a yellow star, to honor its proud communist ideologies, statutes, and administrative policies and procedures. The poop emoji demonstrates the general state of being for Illinois residents because the state has been run by children in adult*maybe even corpulent*bodies with communist ideologies.





4017

Relationship to Illinois

Emmett is a citizen of Illinois, as I am his teacher, Dr. Sherri Silva

Explain the meaning behind your flag

50 stars, Illinois is the best of all the states; looks of the sun setting behind the cornfields of Illinois.



4018

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois, in the beautiful village of La Grange.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

At the center of the flag is a violet, the Illinois state flower. At the center of the violet is the 6 pointed star adopted from Chicago's flag but using the same color code of yellow as the sun in the seal of the current state drag. The bi-color with green at the bottom and white on top is meant to represent the Illinois prairie landscape, with green field and clear skies. Again the colors are adopted fro the seal and backdrop of the current flag.



4019

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy from Blue Mound, Illinois. I am in the 8th grade at Meridian Middle School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has a white background, with a bald eagle with white, a picture of a city, and the name "Illinois" as well as the date Illinois was founded. I decided to use a white background because the original Illinois flag had a white background. Since people who live in Chicago aren't on the flag. I used a bald eagle to represent Illinois being a part of america. To represent the farms in Illinois, I made the bald eagle hold a bundle of wheat.

4020

Relationship to Illinois

I'm re-sending this because I put the wrong email in last time and I don't have another design. I'm a non resident so I know this is a long shot but I have friends who live and work in Illinois and have visited the state myself before. I just want to make a flag that is unique among US states and can be something residents of Illinois can identify with. I think its a great idea for Illinois to hold this redesign contest and I hope other state governments follow suit.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bands run vertically and horizontally represent the rivers of Illinois (Mississippi, Ohio, Wabash, Illinois, and Chicago) The Orange bands symbolize the agriculture of the state and pumpkins The Silhouette of Lincoln for the "land of Lincoln" The Orange band running up into the silhouette represents Shawnee National Forest (Muddy Levee Road approaching Inspiration Point) The Chicago star represents Lake Michigan (can be swapped for 5 point star) White Background for land + Old Flag

4021

Relationship to Illinois

My name is [REDACTED]. I was born in Chicago and lived in River Forest until I was 10 years old. When my family moved away it was hard, because I missed the activities and events of the city and I miss going for long walks along the Desplaines River. Although I was young at the time, Illinois left a lasting impression on me and as someone who loves designing flags, when I heard about this commission, I was thrilled to have the chance to design a flag for a place I still love.



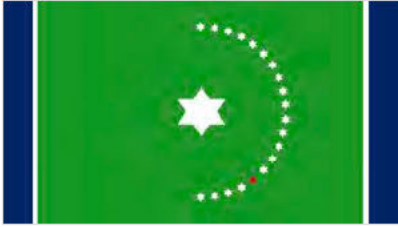
Explain the meaning behind your flag

In designing the flag, I wanted to keep it simple and aesthetically pleasing. The two bars on the side represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan, the white in the centre representing the state, the star symbolising the progress coming from the centre of the state.

4022

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Illinois, went to school and college here. I briefly lived in Colorado (2 years) but am back and raised my kids in the same town (Villa Park, IL) that I grew up in.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

- The two blue stripes represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan - a stylized border one both "west" and "east" - The green is a representation of the prairie and fertile farmland - There are 20 smaller stars and the large 21st star for the 21st state in the Union - The 16th star is red to represent Lincoln as the 16th president - Red as a homage to Chicago

4023

Relationship to Illinois

Is a student submission from an Illinois School

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Meaning not provided



4024

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and raised in the northern suburbs, where I spent much of my childhood playing travel hockey which took me throughout the state. After going out of state for college, I returned to Illinois and have been here ever since. Having lived in Illinois for most of my life, Illinois is home to me - from big city Chicago in the north to the rural south.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to maintain the key elements of our current flag, such as the bald eagle, the shield and the banner with the state motto, while incorporating a reference to the Chicago flag. To achieve this, I included the blue stripes from the Chicago flag to represent water - specifically, Lake Michigan and the Chicago river. It was important to me that my flag paid homage to the current flag and the inspiration behind it, the Great Seal of the United States.

4025



Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy from Blue Mound, Illinois. I attend Meridian Middle School and I am currently in the 8th grade.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used red, white, and blue a lot because it represents America. I used blue and green because the grass is green and the sky is blue. I used stars because it represents the US and I used 13 to represent the first 13 first colonies. I added clouds to show how it is sometimes cloudy. I added a sun to show how warm and sunny it is here.

4026



Relationship to Illinois

Long time resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue field represents the waters of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi, Illinois, Ohio and Wabash rivers, which make up some of the borders of our state. The wavy lines form the shape of Illinois.

4027

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Ravenswood, Chicago and raised in Illinois, where my family immigrated from the Philippines. My time at art school (American Academy of Art) in Chicago deepened my connection to the city and the state. Though I left Illinois for the east coast for a while, I returned, reaffirming that it's not just where I'm from, but where I truly belong. Illinois is my home*rooted in my personal history, my family's journey, and my creative identity. Also, I'm a rare Cubs AND Sox fan.



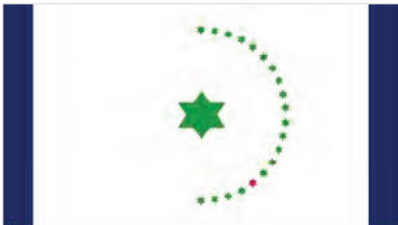
Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design features three horizontal sections representing Northern, Central, and Southern Illinois. It includes 21 stars, symbolizing Illinois as the 21st state. The central star is uniquely composed of 13 motifs, honoring the original tribes of Illinois, inspired by Illiniwek art. Blue signifies the future and the vital waters of Illinois, red represents sovereignty and courage, and white symbolizes unity*both among states and people, as Illinois has long been a hub for travelers.

4028

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up and went to school all through college in Illinois. I moved away for a couple of years then moved back and raised my family in the same town I grew up in. Villa Park, IL. My parents, grandparents and generations lived here all through out the state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

- The blue represent the two major bodies of water - Mississippi River and Lake Michigan - The white is pure, clean prairie - 20 small stars for the states in union and large 21st as Illinois 21st state - Stars are green for the fertility of ground - The semi circle a stylized shape of Illinois - The 16th star is different color to represent Abraham Lincoln as 16th president - red was chosen as tribute to Chicago.

4029

Relationship to Illinois

I am born and raised in Illinois. Born in Ravenswood, Illinois raised in Franklin Park. I attended school at Illinois State University and now live in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has aspects from all areas of Illinois. Blue for the lakes and rivers that flow through our state. The green valleys and forest that spread from north to south. The white representing the wind as in the Windy City one of the best parts of being from Illinois is getting to also represent Chicago and Chicago land area. Lastly the yellow arrows represents cornfields and corn which is one of the great pillars of Illinois.



4030

Relationship to Illinois

Lived here for most my life, over 25 years

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The land of lincoln, I know it's not supposed to be AI generated but I thought we had to the end of the year to finish so I needed to upload the best version I had. I wanted to remove the words and add "land of Lincoln est. 1818" on the coin/sun. If it's considered I can submit and non AI version. I also didn't have time to convert to jpg and it wouldn't allow me to submit a jpeg



4031

Relationship to Illinois

Is a student submission from an Illinois School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

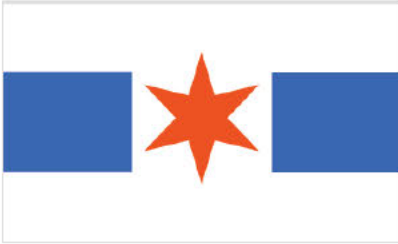
I use a circle and dark blue color because it symbolizes unity, and it is a large circle because the state of Illinois has a strong belief in that. The circle has a white stripe because white symbolizes purity, honesty, and new beginnings. The stripes in the circle represent rebellion. 13 light blue stripes because Illinois was the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment to the Constitution that abolished slavery. Our state did the right thing abolishing slavery. Light blue being conscientious.



4032

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a proud third generation native Illinoisian, born in Chicago * the heart & soul of my immigrant family who emigrated from Italy, Ireland, Poland, and Germany. As a young girl, our family relocated out of state. We'd often return to Chicago where I fell in love with the soaring skyscrapers, Grant Park Festivals, and many museums. Chicago's influence on me changed my life for the better, and led me to become a designer. Later, I returned to live in the Chicago neighborhood where I was born.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 6-sided star honors the people of Illinois: Indigenous, Immigrants, Great Migration & its Residents: Current, Former & Future. Blue represents Illinois' natural resources, carrying the flow of commerce and people. The white stripes stand for progress. The vertical supports the star, acts as a bridge & connects the three stripes. The horizontals represent continuous advancement in Education, Technology & Transportation. Together, the three stripes form the shape of an "I" for Illinois.

4033

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy that lives in Decatur Illinois. I attend Meridian Middle School in Macon and I am in the 8th grade. In my free time to an on the Decatur YMCA Swim Team.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used red, white, and blue a lot because it represents America. I used blue and green because the grass is green and the sky is blue. I used stars because it represents the US and I used 13 to represent the first 13 first colonies. I added clouds to show how it is sometimes cloudy. I added a sun to show how warm and sunny it is here. I used the green background to represent how much farmland there is and the Lincoln represents his history here.



4034

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Ravenswood, Chicago and raised in Illinois, where my family immigrated from the Philippines. My time at art school (American Academy of Art) in Chicago deepened my connection to the city and the state. Though I left Illinois for the east coast for a while, I returned, reaffirming that it's not just where I'm from, but where I truly belong. Illinois is my home*rooted in my personal history, my family's journey, and my creative identity. Also, I'm a rare Cubs AND Sox fan.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design features three horizontal sections representing Northern, Central, and Southern Illinois. It includes 21 stars, symbolizing Illinois as the 21st state. The central star is uniquely composed of 13 motifs, honoring the original tribes of Illinois, inspired by Illiniwek art. Blue signifies the future and the vital waters of Illinois, red represents sovereignty and courage, and white symbolizes unity*both among states and people, as Illinois has long been a hub for travelers.

4035

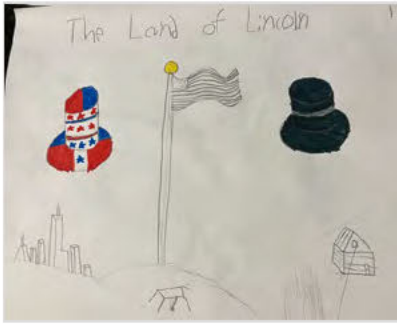
Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life, coming from a suburb of Chicago, I have seen my fair share of the city life, and of the wonders throughout the state from being on trips to Starved Rock and visiting Springfield. Seeing the Mississippi River when you cross over to Iowa and Missouri is a sight that I love to see. I have a lot of pride for my state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Navy side triangle represents the shape of Illinois, simplified. Navy is for the US Naval training in Illinois. The Green stripe is for Illinois's Agriculture. The yellow stripe is for the prairies (Illinois being the prairie state). The blue stripe up top is for Lake Michigan bordering our state, as well as the blue of Chicago, a similar color to their flag, the blue also represents the sky looking over Illinois. The Seal is featured in the triangle for identification and timelessness.



4036

Relationship to Illinois

We live in Forest Park, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

These are some of the coolest parts of the history of Illinois.



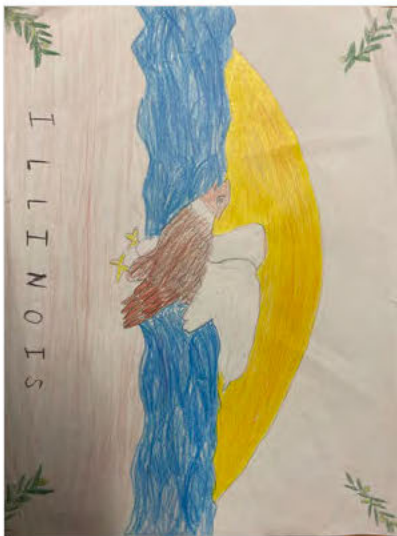
4037

Relationship to Illinois

Is a student submission from an Illinois School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I placed a Northern Cardinal because this is the bird of Illinois)and I chose this because the cardinal signifies the loss of a person you love. I chose the colors Navy and Orange because they are the colors of the University of Illinois college, the colors of the Illinois basketball team, and the state's colors. The sun in most of the image means that the dark times are over.



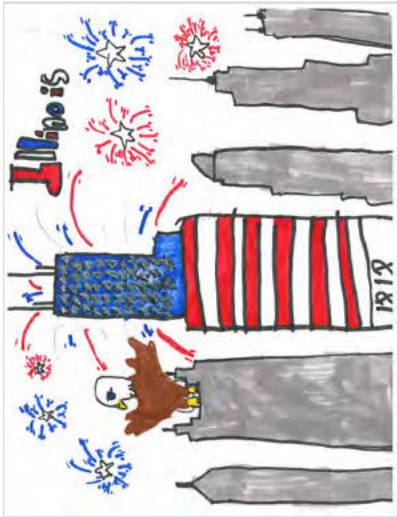
4038

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 and half year old girl from Decatur, Illinois. I attend Meridian Middle School in Macon, Illinois. I love performing on stage, especially in musicals.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The sunset reminds me of everywhere in Illinois, showing the diversity of the state. Whether you are in the country, watching it over the fields, or viewing the city sunset. It doesn't matter, it represents the whole state. Then the river also represents the whole state, since a large amount of rivers span over Illinois. The eagle represents the strength our state has, showing how far we've come. The dirt shows the country part of Illinois, where farmers grow crops. Finally, the olive branches.



4039

Relationship to Illinois

We live here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Represents how Illinois is part of the United States, Chicago is a big city and an eagle is the state bird.

4040

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a proud third generation native Illinoian, born in Chicago * the heart & soul of my immigrant family who emigrated from Italy, Ireland, Poland, and Germany. As a young girl, our family relocated out of state. We'd often return to Chicago where I fell in love with the soaring skyscrapers, Grant Park Festivals, and many museums. Chicago's influence on me changed my life for the better and led me to become a designer. Later, I returned to live in the Chicago neighborhood where I was born.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 6-sided star honors the people of Illinois: Indigenous, Immigrants, Great Migration & its Residents: Current, Former & Future. The blue rectangle represents Illinois' natural resources, carrying the flow of commerce and people. The white symbolizes progress, representing Illinois' continuous advancement in Education, Technology & Transportation.



4041

Relationship to Illinois

Life-long resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white represents the industry that grew Chicago, the gold is for the prairies and farmland downstate, and the blue is for the many waterways of Illinois. The diagonal stripe going from the bottom left to top right represents the many connections between the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan over the years, especially the Chicago Portage, the I&M Canal, and the Illinois Waterway.



4042

Relationship to Illinois

We live here

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It represents Illinois and Abe Lincoln is famous president from Illinois.



4043

Relationship to Illinois

Though born elsewhere, I have now lived in IL for over six years, about half of that time in Central IL and half now in Chicago. Having lived in two very disparate parts of our great state has informed my design.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The three horizontal bars represent northern, central, and southern IL. The blue represents Chicago, Lake Michigan, and the other great rivers of our state. The yellow represents fertile central IL and the corn that is synonymous with it, as well as the optimism for our future. The green represents the woodland south. All together, they depict a view of grass, corn, and sky of a fall Illinois field. In the center, a self explanatory Lincoln penny, with the copper doubling to represent industry.

4044

Relationship to Illinois

Resident since 2008, no better place to live.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Golden rays reference sunburst of the current flag and IL as:-agricultural power (furrows & bushels)-transportation hub (rail & highways)-tech / innovation hub and economic engine-beacon guiding others + being central convergence point for the nation
Blue stars represent:-3 IL regions (Northern, Central, Southern)-21st state (3 stars x 7 points = 21 points)-letter I for Illinois-blue references US flag + state motto
White field represents peace, possibility, current flag

4045

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for as long as I can remember, though I was born in Hannibal, Missouri, just across the river. Moving here brought me endless joy, and Illinois holds my fondest memories. I'm proud of our state's rich culture. My cousin even immigrated from India to attend college here. This submission gives me the opportunity to express my love for Illinois with a renewed sense of pride.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag symbolizes Illinois' core values. The blue squares represent the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, our natural borders. A red cardinal, our state bird, embodies strength and resilience. The orange star reflects our rich soil and agricultural heritage, with 18 points honoring Illinois' founding in 1818. This design captures the spirit, history, and pride of Illinois, and I hope it can become our next state flag!



4046

Relationship to Illinois

Is a student submission from an Illinois School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The orange and blue colors represent the colors of Illinois, the stars represent the stars of the Chicago flag, and the cardinal represents the bird of Illinois.



4047

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and have lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag design is the eagle incorporates the Seal of the State of Illinois in a new way. The eagle with its wings extended symbolizes soaring into progress. The two stripes represent the crops that are grown throughout the State and the shining sun. The star in the middle symbolizes how central Illinois is to the United States and it is one of the 50 stars that make up the United States flag. The blue background represents the rivers and lakes that surround the State.



4048

Relationship to Illinois

Born, raised, and resided in Illinois my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

3 seven-pointed stars allude to Illinois being 21st state in U.S. Stars being red, white and blue symbolic of U.S.A. Largest star being centered and above other two symbolic of Illinois' geographic location in upper Midwest. Blue outline alludes to bordering of Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. Letter "I" positioned such that lower portion looks similar to Abraham Lincoln top hat.



4049

Relationship to Illinois

Robin is 8 years old and has lived most of my life in Illinois. Since I remember I have traveled to the different parts of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Robin's flag is a prairie like the state slogan. It has the state flower: violets; State butterfly: Monarch; State bird: Cardinal; State Amphibian: Eastern tiger salamander, State vegetable: sweet corn as well as state grain: corn.



4050

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in southern Illinois, my Mom worked for the State of Illinois, I graduated from the University of Illinois at Springfield, I often visit friends who live in Chicagoland, and I am a proud Illinoisian.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Cloud Gate is reflecting the diversity of the State. Primary colors used are silver, red, white, blue, green. Bottom of the reflection are the bodies of water important to the State (i.e. Lake Michigan, Mississippi river, Ohio river). Skyline shows (left to right) Old Post Office, 875 N. Michigan Ave, Springfield State Capitol, Wrigley Building. To the left (cardinal on white oak branch) & right (white-tailed deer between corn) of the skyline represents the "prairie" with our State symbols.





4051

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy that is in the 8th grade at Meridian Middle School in Macon, Illinois. I live in the country of Blue Mound, Illinois. I love to go camping and participate in anything dealing with the Boy Scouts.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used a cardinal because it is the state bird the white oak branch is because it is the state tree then 1818 because that is when illinois was officially a state then land of lincoln because it is the state motto



4052

Relationship to Illinois

Resident since 2008. No better place to live.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White field:- peace-possibility-current flag
Blue stars:- 3 IL regions (Northern, Central, Southern)-21st state (3 stars x 7 points = 21 points)-blue references US flag + state motto-triangular arrangement = progress
Gold stripe:-agriculture / land-innovation / industry / economic engine
Blue stripe:-role of waterways / lake / boundaries-blue sky
Negative space between stripes:- letter "I"- rail-and roadways



4053

Relationship to Illinois

Resident, homeowner, born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Aligned from the American flag colors...Red stands for our people and labor ("hardiness and valour") White is a corresponding star from the American flag ("purity and innocence") Blue signifies our lakes, rivers and waterways. ("vigilance, perseverance & justice") Green represents our natural resources, industry and agriculture.

4054

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Springfield, Illinois. I live here and I go to school at the University of Illinois Springfield. I recently won a scholarship to go to the World Affairs Council National Conference in Washington D.C., where only 25 students in all 50 states were selected to go, and I will be representing Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

As someone born and raised in Central Illinois, the distinct yellow stripe on the flag represents two things: 1. Sunlight shining down onto Illinois plains and 2. Cornstalks, highlighting the importance of Illinois farmers. The 21 stars on the flag, with the final being on a silhouette of Illinois, represents the fact that Illinois was the 21st state to join the union. The blue surrounding this symbol represents the two key bodies of water surrounding Illinois-- the Mississippi and Lake Michigan

4055

Relationship to Illinois

Resident since 2008. No better place to live.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White field: -peace-possibility-current flag
Blue stars: -3 IL regions (Northern, Central, Southern)-21st state (3 stars x 7 points = 21 points)-blue references US flag
+ state motto-arrangement up and right = positive inertia, growth, possibility



4056

Relationship to Illinois

Is a student submission from an Illinois School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I choose these color and animals and because I see a lot of orange in Illinois and the date of Illinois college is and the high school of Oswego has the animals I choose. The deer is the spiritual animal of Illinois and the bald eagle is known in Illinois.



4057

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Chicago for 3 years and have fallen completely in love with this city and the surrounding state. As a transplant from Arkansas, I see the bountiful opportunity this state has to offer starkly contrasted with what I left behind.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The light blue stands for Lake Michigan and Northern Illinois, and the six-pointed star stands for Chicago. The white symbolizes unity between Northern and Southern Illinois. The green mounds symbolize the Cahokian mounds. The star rising above the mounds represents Illinois' bright future. Finally, the gold stripe represents Southern Illinois, (Little Egypt) and the agriculture grown throughout the state. The flag keeps the same motifs as the old flag, just more simplified and streamlined.



4058

Relationship to Illinois

I am 8th Grade boy from Meridian Middle School. I am 13 almost 14 years old. I live in Decatur, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stars represent the 13 colonies, the light blue represents the rivers the light blue inside the inner circle is the illinois river the light blue on top of the line is the michigan and the smaller is the ohio the red in the circle and line is for our national bird the cardinal and the dark blue is for the great lakes.



4059

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. My whole life I've searched for a way to be impactful to my state and and community. I am extremely proud of my state and hope to do my due diligence with this flag

Explain the meaning behind your flag

With the meaning of my flg I hoped to merge tradition with a modernist interpretation. I kept the the Eagle, Rock, and state crest from the original state flag. I redesigned the eagle to reinterpret the National symbol in a more modern and angular Style. I utilized every color from the original flag in my flag as a way to maintain tradition in this modern interpretation. I aimed to keep the Regal Aura from the original but in my own style.



4060

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois I am a resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's supposed to show a eagle flying in a beautiful city sky and the fierce eagle is looking for prey to eat .



4061

Relationship to Illinois

Is a student submission from an Illinois School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

No explanation given



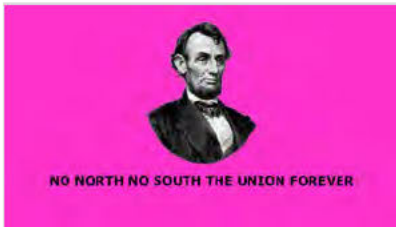
4062

Relationship to Illinois

Chicago, IL resident since 2016. John Hughes movie fan and longtime ORD connecting passenger before that.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

President Lincoln is inarguably the finest person this state has produced, and his role in preserving the USA is one of the most significant events worthy of commemoration in a new flag for this state. I saw the quote beneath Lincoln on a war memorial somewhere on the internet, and it has stuck with me ever since. Tying Illinois to this sentiment forever is a fitting tribute. I also picked a pink background because there are more than enough blue state flags out there.



4063

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for as long as I can remember, though I was born in Hannibal, Missouri, just across the river. Moving here brought me endless joy, and Illinois holds my fondest memories. I'm proud of our state's rich culture. My cousin even immigrated from India to attend college here. This submission gives me the opportunity to express my love for Illinois with a renewed sense of pride.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue triangles represent the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, with the top triangle lighter to symbolize Illinois' clear skies. The orange star in the middle represents our state's rich soil, showing agriculture as the backbone of the nation. It has 16 points to honor Abraham Lincoln, our 16th president, who lived in Illinois. The star symbolizes the "Land of Lincoln" surrounded by the rivers, embodying the state's culture.



4064



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and lived here my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose this flag design because I thought a sunset would look really nice with the state sport of Illinois, cycling, and buildings for decoration. I also liked the nice colors because they look nice with all my details. I chose it for all those reason except I also chose it because everything looked nice all together.

4065



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the three parts of Illinois: The south, central, and north. On the right is the Willis Tower to represent Chicago. To the left are some cornstalks to represent central Illinois. In the middle is a black bear to represent the south. The black bear has the state's nickname and year when it became a state. There is no color scheme with the background or Willis Tower.

4066



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois since Dec. 2015.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose a bicolor of white & green for a few reasons: I generally like bicolors; the green on bottom represents prairie grass, and the white on top represents the sky; and I wanted to pay a little homage to the flag of Poland, of which I see flown a lot around my area. I then added a violet, Illinois's state flower, to the center. I created some variations on the 21 stars (Illinois being the 21st state) surrounding it; in this variation, I made the stars into a full half-white-half-green circle.



4067

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy that attends Meridian Middle School in Macon, IL. I play basketball and baseball. I live in Decatur, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used the colors I did because I took inspiration from the Indonesian flag.



4068

Relationship to Illinois

Is a student submission from an Illinois School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The shield and eagle to represent the USA, The city outline to represent our city and suburban life, The farm to represent our farm life and farming of crops like corn and soybean, the images above the farm, our state's name, the date of the founding of the state of Illinois.



4069

Relationship to Illinois

Chicago resident since 2016

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A recreation of the Provo, UT city flag for a more statewide audience. But this time it's a different state than Utah.

4070

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois since Dec. 2015.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose a bicolor of white & green for a few reasons: I generally like bicolors; the green on bottom represents prairie grass, and the white on top represents the sky; and I wanted to pay a little homage to the flag of Poland, of which I see flown a lot around my area. I then added a violet, Illinois's state flower, to the center. I created some variations on the 21 stars (Illinois being the 21st state) surrounding it; in this variation, I made the stars into a white semicircle over the green.



4071

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois since Dec. 2015.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose a bicolor of white & green for a few reasons: I generally like bicolors; the green on bottom represents prairie grass, and the white on top represents the sky; and I wanted to pay a little homage to the flag of Poland, of which I see flown a lot around my area. I then added a violet, Illinois's state flower, to the center. I created some variations on the 21 stars (Illinois being the 21st state) surrounding it, but in this variation, there are no stars.



4072

Relationship to Illinois

Is a student submission from an Illinois School. (Please ignore the water stains, it should be a solid purple line)

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the color violet because the flower of Illinois is the violet, so it is an important color for Illinois. I chose a star and also the red stripes because Illinois is in the USA, and the flag of the USA has stars and stripes. I chose to have 21 points because Illinois is the 21st state to enter the union.





4073

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 14 year old male, that is in the 8th grade at Meridian Middle School. I live in Decatur, Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I did this because I like eagles and also the flag is like the wind would be blowing in the air.



4074

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is home for me and my family, dating to when my ancestors came to Chicago from Eastern Europe during the first half of the 20th century in search of a better life and fleeing persecution. I chose to move back to Illinois after college and time living abroad. My life here is full of exploring the outdoors, eating amazing food from around the world (including the occasional Chicago-style hot dog), and enjoying all that our state has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flags colors evoke the blue of the Illinois Centennial Flag and the sun of the current flag of Illinois. The three blue strips are for the three main bodies of water in Illinois (Lake Michigan, Illinois River, and Mississippi River). The five stalks represent the prairies and produce grown in Illinois, the five main tribes of the Illini Confederation, and constant growth towards a better future.



4075

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old girl from Decatur Illinois. I attend Meridian Middle School in Macon, Illinois. I enjoy acting in drama productions.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put the city to represent Chicago, the town to show the many suburban areas, and the corn field because Illinois is obsessed with corn. The violet is our state flower, and I thought the contrast with the yellowy browns was nice, plus Illinois has amazing wildflowers.



4076

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is wherever you are in the state we are all connected. If you grew up in the fields or living the city life we are all connected in this state.

4077

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a proud third generation native Illinoian, born in Chicago * the heart & soul of my immigrant family who emigrated from Italy, Ireland, Poland, and Germany. As a young girl, our family relocated out of state. We'd often return to Chicago where I fell in love with the soaring skyscrapers, Grant Park Festivals, and many museums. Chicago's influence on me changed my life for the better and led me to become a designer. Later, I returned to live in the Chicago neighborhood where I was born.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design acknowledges the Indigenous People of Illinois and interprets colors and shapes from historical animal hide paintings. The 6-sided star honors all people of Illinois: Indigenous, Immigrants, Great Migration, and Residents: Current, Former & Future. The blue stripes represent Illinois' natural resources & the many waterways that carry the flow of commerce and people. White symbolizes innovation, representing Illinois' continuous advancement in Education, Technology & Transportation.

4078

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Joliet, raised and still reside in New Lenox. Additionally I went down to college in Edwardsville at SIUE where I had obtained my Bachelor's degree.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Gold: The state's agriculture, the stripes also give the allusion of the side of a log cabin to represent Lincoln. Blue: The waters of Illinois, with the stripes representing the Mississippi, Wabash, and Ohio Rivers. The pile represents Lake Michigan and also has the general shape of Illinois. White: Unity, the stars represent Northern, Central, Southern Illinois, & Chicago. Together they have 21 points for the 21st state. Also it has design inspiration from both the Centennial and US flags.



4079

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is wherever you are in the state we are all connected. If you grew up in the fields or living the city life we are all connected in this state.



4080

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is home for me and my family, dating to when my ancestors came to Chicago from Eastern Europe during the first half of the 20th century in search of a better life and fleeing persecution. I chose to move back to Illinois after college and time living abroad. My life here is full of exploring the outdoors, eating amazing food from around the world (including the occasional Chicago-style hot dog), and enjoying all that our state has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the stained glass windows of Frank Lloyd Wright, the flag is a window into bright opportunity and the diversity of the state. It pieces together dark blue (from the Illinois Centennial Flag and representing the waters of the state), light blue (from the current flag and representing our open skies), and yellow (from the current flag and representing the prairies & produce). The 3 stars represent the N, S, and Central parts of the state; their 21 points represent IL as the 21st state.



4081

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my flag is wherever you are in the state we are all connected. Showing our beginnings.



4082

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 14 year old boy that lives in Macon, IL. I attend Meridian Middle School and I am in the 8th grade.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

There are 21 one stars Because we are the 21st state and the 13 strips for the 13 colones and the flags red, white, and blue for america.



4083

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is home for me and my family, dating to when my ancestors came to Chicago from Eastern Europe during the first half of the 20th century in search of a better life and fleeing persecution. I chose to move back to Illinois after college and time living abroad. My life here is full of exploring the outdoors, eating amazing food from around the world (including the occasional Chicago-style hot dog), and enjoying all that our state has to offer.

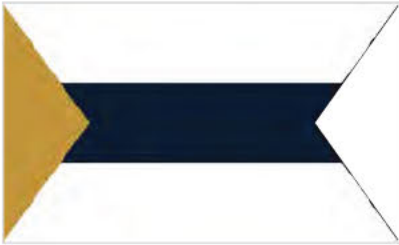
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The motion of this flag is for our state constantly moving forward. The blue (from the Illinois Centennial Flag) is for the waters of the state. The yellow represents the prairies and produce of the state. The rolling blue and yellow waves are for the waves of water in our rivers and lakes and the wind blowing across the prairie. There are 5 blue waves for the five main tribes of the Illini Confederation. 3 stars are for the N, S, & Central parts of the state. 21 points are for the 21st state.

4084

Relationship to Illinois

When my family immigrated to the United States, Illinois opened itself and welcomed them with open arms. I want to help make it even better because I am thankful for all the opportunities this state has given me and my family. I am very proud to be a lifelong citizen of this great state, and of all the great things Illinoisans have accomplished, not just in American history, but world history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag I am submitting is the "Illinois, Foreword!". It is meaningful and unique in shape, because my state is unlike any other! The two points on the flag symbolize the two parts of the State motto "State Sovereignty" and "National Union". The golden triangle is like an arrow symbolizing progress. The blue symbolizes our rich waterways that have helped Illinois become such an important state for trade and in history. The white symbolizes hope for the future and respect for our past.

4085

Relationship to Illinois

I was born, raised and still reside in Chicago, IL. The majority of my life has been spent on the Chicago South Side in the East Hyde Park neighborhood. I attended college at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago where I earned my BFA in 2018. My maternal family has farming roots from rural IL (Ottawa & Mahomet). My family was close friends with the late honorable Judge Benjamin K Miller, who was Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice in the early 90s. He inspired state pride within me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have elected to keep fundamental components from the original flag including the National coat of arms, the symbolic American Bald Eagle and the banner reading, "State sovereignty, National Freedom." Being independent as a state while recognizing the importance of being unified as a nation is an essential ideal of our country. I've added our state bird & flower to be paired with the state tree leaf, as well as an arrowhead to pay tribute to the indigenous Illiniwek peoples who were here first.



4086

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old girl from Macon, Illinois. I am in the 8th grade at Meridian Middle School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put buildings to represent Chicago and all of the cities in Illinois. Next, on the top right I put a wheat field that represents the smaller towns and the farms. Then I put corn on the left side to represent Illinois grows the most corn in the country. In the middle is the letter I that represents the states name.



4087

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, lived here almost my entire life, and I love every part of it. The pleasant blue of Lake Michigan and the vibrant greens of the August tallgrass; the immense skyscrapers of the Windy City and the wind rolling off the prairie; the scorching summer and the freezing winter; the quiet cornfields and the lively downtowns. I have lived elsewhere in the US, and traveled abroad, but nothing really compares. To put it simply, Illinois is, and always will be, my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I designed this flag to honor our natural heritage. The icon in the middle is the seedhead of the state grass, the big bluestem. Elements of the 1918 centennial flag are used to emphasize this connection to the prairie; the encircling blue invokes the essential waterways of the state, while the white star which represents Illinois also takes the place of the plant's stem. This flag is meant to remember what we were and to promise, with proper care, what we may continue to be: The Prairie State.

4088



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my whole life and I am proud to have lived here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Chicago Skyline: Symbolizes Illinois's urban identity and economic power, with

Chicago being a major hub for trade, commerce, and culture. Abraham

Lincoln: Represents the deep historical significance of Abraham Lincoln, who spent many formative years in Illinois and is one of the state's most iconic figures. Red

Cardinal: The cardinal, the state bird of Illinois, symbolizes nature, life, and the vibrant ecosystems of Illinois's forests and landscapes.

4089



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the Chicago suburbs, and have lived all but 4 years in the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two golden stripes for the corn we grow One blue stripe for the Illinois River A fleur-de-lis for our French heritage and Metro East A 5 pointed star for Springfield and the 5 cities in the middle of the state A 6 pointed star for Chicago and its region



4090

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy from Decatur Illinois. I am in the 8th grade at Meridian Middle School in Macon.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the flower because it is the state's flower. I chose the bird because it's the state bird. I wanted to do the Mississippi river since it borders the state. I chose the colors I did cause I thought it fit Illinois the best. The corn is for all of our fields.

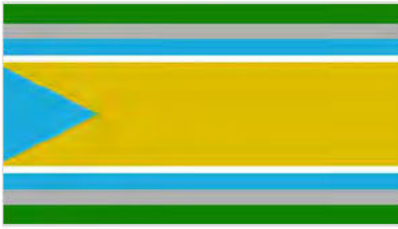
4091

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois, namely Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to focus on the physical beauty and human drive of IL. The outer green stripes represent the national and state parks. The blue triangle symbolizes Lake Michigan while the top blue stripe symbolizes the Mississippi River and the bottom the Illinois River. The Golden center bar a nod to IL's vast cornfields and the two white stripes for unity of urban and rural. The two gray train "tracks," a nod to our rail system and IL's innovation in technology and manufacturing.



4092

Relationship to Illinois

Raised in Illinois, went to University of Illinois, work for the Department of Transportation

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The current flag is okay but needs to be simplified and drawn better (hopefully by a professional not me!). I think corn and/or soybeans needs to be represented and the fact that the state's key role in keeping the Union together during the civil war needs to be emphasized (possibly changing the motto to "Land of Lincoln". If I could draw better I would have included a snake (representing the former confederacy) being trampled. The stars can represent the 21st state or something.



4093

Relationship to Illinois

Raised in Illinois, went to University of Illinois, work for the Department of Transportation



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The current flag is okay but needs to be simplified and drawn better (hopefully by a professional not me!). I think corn and/or soybeans needs to be represented and the fact that the state's key role in keeping the Union together during the civil war needs to be emphasized (possibly changing the motto to "Land of Lincoln". If I could draw better I would have included a snake (representing the former confederacy) being trampled. The stars can represent the 21st state or something.

4094

Relationship to Illinois

Raised in Illinois, went to University of Illinois, work for the Department of Transportation



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The current flag is okay but needs to be simplified and drawn better (hopefully by a professional not me!). I think corn and/or soybeans needs to be represented and the fact that the state's key role in keeping the Union together during the civil war needs to be emphasized (possibly changing the motto to "Land of Lincoln". If I could draw better I would have included a snake (representing the former confederacy) being trampled. The stars can represent the 21st state or something.

4095

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old boy from Decatur, Illinois. I attend Meridian Middle School in Macon. I am in the 8th grade. I am very active in our schools scholastic bowl team.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I put a cardinal on a branch in the middle of the flag because it is our state bird. I also put the date that Illinois was founded.



4096

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud graduate of Woodland Middle School and Warren Township High School in Gurnee, Illinois, and a former resident of the Rogers Park neighborhood in Chicago. Although I have been away from the state for the last four years, Illinois will always be where I am from and where I call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

An Illinois Sunset on the River and Prairie The flag's design draws inspiration from the sunrise over water depicted in the Great Seal of Illinois. Echoing the far-reaching, radiant rays, it symbolizes an Illinois sunset casting its golden light over the Mississippi River and across the vast Prairie State.



4097

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Illinois for most of my life and it's my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to incorporate red, white, and blue so I made the top and bottom a baby blue. I felt like a dark or navy blue would clash and be harsher. I included the red behind the butterfly and the white for the overall background. I added another blue stripe to add something different and make the eye have another, smaller detail to notice. I put a monarch butterfly as it is the state's insect and I thought it would be a nice centerpiece for the flag.



4098

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 13 year old male that lives in Decatur Illinois. I attend Meridian Middle School and I am in the 8th Grade.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green background represents our rolling prairie. The cardinal is our state bird and added the date Illinois became a state.



4099



Relationship to Illinois

Was born in Chicago. Have been every which way in the state and have found enjoyment in all directions. Still live here and don't plan on leaving.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is more simple than my other two submissions. I leaned more into what the first imagery that came to my mind when thinking of the state and tried to put it all together without overthinking things. These are the colors that I usually associate with the state.

4100



Relationship to Illinois

Even though I don't live in Illinois, I have recognized its great significance and beauty. I have visited Chicago twice - the first trip going to the Shedd Aquarium, the second time going to Medieval Times and the Museum of Science and History. Though I have only been to Chicago, I already believe that Illinois is a fantastic place to visit. Overall, Illinois is a great state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has cultural, historical, and geographical meaning to Illinois. Blue represents the bodies of water, yellow represents the prairie, and green represents the vegetation. The five green stars represent the five major tribes of the Illinois Confederation. The red, white, and blue star represents the United States also could be France and Great Britain, the previous claimers of the land.) Lastly, the colors represents the growth, optimism, peace, hope, and loyalty of Illinois.

4101

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Warren Taylor, and I have lived in Illinois for my entire life, all 11 years, and I love this state very much.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red in my flag is to represent the blood of the people of Illinois, in the many wars that our state fought in. The blue in my flag is to represent the many lakes and rivers of Illinois, including Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The blue also represents the blues music that was made in Chicago, Illinois. The green in the flag represents the many cornfields that you can find across our great state of Illinois. And lastly, the white in my flag represents an unknown, but hopeful future.



4102

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived the majority of my life in Illinois, most of my family is still there, and I return 'home' frequently.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A classic Illinois landscape at dawn. Three stars represent the past present and future, three stripes for North, Central, and Southern IL. Additionally, the stripes not-so-subtly honor our ubiquitous cornfields, and the 6 pointed stars are a nod to Chicago's flag, honoring both the urban and rural communities that make up Illinois.



4103

Relationship to Illinois

I've lived the majority of my life in Illinois, most of my family is still there, and I return 'home' frequently.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A classic Illinois landscape at dusk. Three stars represent the past present and future, three stripes for North, Central, and Southern IL. Additionally, the stripes not-so-subtly honor our ubiquitous cornfields, and the 6 pointed stars are a nod to Chicago's flag, honoring both the urban and rural communities that make up Illinois.



4104

Relationship to Illinois

When my family immigrated to the United States, Illinois opened itself and welcomed them with open arms. I want to help make it even better because I am thankful for all the opportunities this state has given me and my family. I am very proud to be a lifelong citizen of this great state, and of all the great things Illinoisans have accomplished, not just in American history, but world history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The "Emancipation Flag". This flag symbolizes freedom and liberty that Illinoisans have fought for since the beginning of our state's history. The blue stands for sky and the water that brings life to the state. Gold stands for the prosperity and riches of our state. The broken chains are a powerful symbol reminding us of Abraham Lincoln's and other Illinois citizens' actions that led to expansion of rights to more groups of people.

4105

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois. I grew up in Illinois and went to Joseph Sears School in Kenilworth and then to New Trier High School.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has a dark navy background that symbolizes Lake Michigan. Inside the background is a ring of 14 red stars, 6 yellow-filled stars, and a deer silhouette. The 14 images (red stars + yellow stars + deer) add to 21, which is equivalent to Illinois being the 21st state. The red stars symbolize the city of Chicago since the Chicago flag has red stars. The yellow inside the red symbolizes the farmland in Illinois, and how important it is to the state. And the deer is the state mammal.

4106



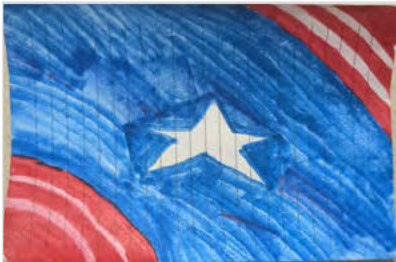
Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here in Illinois. Chicago is my hometown. At the age of 21 I enlisted as active duty to The United States Army. Hi, my name is Cyprus Alexandria Marks, but now I my last name is Watts. After leaving my city and state I learned many powerful lessons. After my travels I noticed that no matter if I was in Dubai or Europe I always anticipated coming home. Later I realized that I am a tourist in my homeland and decided to only travel in my state until I learn more.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

While traveling I noticed people would tattoo their state on their bodies demonstrating love for their land. I took notice to Illinois. To my surprise I noticed I haven't met anyone who tattoos the state of Illinois on their body. By the time I thought to do so GOD made sure I knew that tattoos are not for me. This is why I choose The State of Illinois for a new design for our flag with our state name written in on the border.

4107



Relationship to Illinois

This is a student submission from an Illinois School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the color red, white, and blue because its the states color I drew a star in the middle because the US flag has stars.

4108

Relationship to Illinois

As a young man, a special trip to visit the architectural masterpieces of Frank Lloyd Wright in Oak Park, Illinois captivated and inspired me to pursue a career in architecture. Decades have passed since then, but my passion for architecture is still strong. I credit my time in Illinois for sparking a career that I love.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

A corn tassel on the left side of the flag links the past, present, and future of Illinois. Native Americans cultivated corn in Illinois over 1,000 years ago. Today, corn is Illinois' top commodity, and corn fields cover nearly one-third of the state. White stripes on the right side of the flag converge, representing Illinois as a continental crossroad. The stripes and areas of blue between the stripes add up to twenty-one, representing Illinois' place as the 21st state in the Union.

4109

Relationship to Illinois

I first came to Illinois as an elementary school student. My sister and I attended high school in Chicago. I earned my bachelor's degree at the Illinois Institute of Art, now my daughter is pursuing her degree at the Art Institute of Chicago. My dad lived and worked here for a few decades and I moved my mom here in her later years to be closer to me. My brother moved from another state and met his wife here. I now work in Chicago, so I've been here for several decades; it truly is home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The elements in my design of blue-green represent our state's prairie grass and its complement yellow. The green is also for our nature preserves. Illinois is known as the prairie state because of the vast prairies that cover the region. The grasslands of Illinois represent the crops that helped shape our economy, ecosystem and provides a habitat for animals. The prairies inspire art and literature. There is a sense of pride that connects our unique landscape and the community of Illinois.

4110

Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud graduate of Woodland Middle School and Warren Township High School in Gurnee, Illinois, and a former resident of the Rogers Park neighborhood in Chicago. Although I have been away from the state for the last four years, Illinois will always be where I am from and where I call home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Natural Illinois. This design celebrates the natural features of Illinois. The tree has 10 branches representing the 10 natural community classes found in the state: forest, woodland, prairie, savanna, wetland, lake/pond, stream, cave, bedrock, and shore. The five waves of water symbolize the five largest rivers in the state: the Mississippi, Illinois, Kaskaskia, Little Wabash, and Wabash. The design also includes the state motto, "State Sovereignty, National Union."

4111

Relationship to Illinois

I am not an Illinoisan, but have tremendous respect for the proud Indigenous and American history at the heart of our country and continent, where the Great Lakes meet our greatest river systems, from the ancient Mississippian culture to the historic Land of Lincoln and beyond.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag highlights a rendition of the Peoria Falcon, a Mississippian culture copper artifact from about the year 1200, from a settlement of the same era as Cahokia. The rendition is by my friend Jerone Hsu, and the falcon is holding the state grass, big bluestem. The overall design is inspired by the Illinois Centennial Flag, with the broad blue band representing the lake and river systems, and 21 stars for our 21st state.

4112

Relationship to Illinois

I am not an Illinoisan, but have tremendous respect for the proud Indigenous and American history at the heart of our country and continent, where the Great Lakes meet our greatest river systems, from the ancient Mississippian culture to the historic Land of Lincoln and beyond.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag highlights a rendition of the Peoria Falcon, a Mississippian culture copper artifact from about the year 1200, from a settlement of the same era as Cahokia. The rendition is by my friend Jerone Hsu, and the falcon is holding the state grass, big bluestem. The overall design is inspired by the Illinois Centennial Flag, with the broad blue band representing the lake and river systems, and 21 stars for our 21st state.

4113

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in the North Shore, I've lived in Illinois my entire life. My favorite part of Illinois is probably the prairies and how they look in the spring. I love it when the flowers begin to bloom and it looks like a great expanse of different colors.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Each circle represents a respective region of Illinois. The left corresponds to the prairies that are prominent in the central region. The center corresponds to the northern region and its border to Lake Michigan. The final circle on the right represents the southern part of Illinois and the Shawnee National Forest that spreads across Illinois' southern tip.

4114

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Chicago, and my partner's family has lived in Illinois for decades.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For Illinois's first 100 years of statehood in 1918, Wallace Rice designed a centennial flag that had three horizontal bands of equal width alternating white, blue, white. It was charged with 21 stars along the edge of the hoist. This flag has the same number of stars as his-reflecting the number of states in the union when Illinois joined-but the total number of points on the stars now reflect the number of counties in Illinois, with the central star resembling Chicago's four stars.



4115

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Glenview, Illinois, where every part of my life has been shaped by the spirit of this state. I went to Glenbrook South and have always felt that Illinois is the heart of the Midwest, with its rich history, diverse communities, and strong sense of resilience. From the vibrant culture of Chicago to the peaceful farmlands downstate, Illinois has instilled in me values of hard work, community, and pride that continue to guide me wherever life takes me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The black fleur-de-lis honors Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, the founder of Chicago, and recognizes the French influence in the early history of the Illinois territory. Blue represents the waters of Lake Michigan along with the Chicago and Mississippi Rivers, underscoring their vital role in the state's geography and economy. White symbolizes the Illini Confederation, representing peace, unity, and the deep cultural significance of the native peoples.



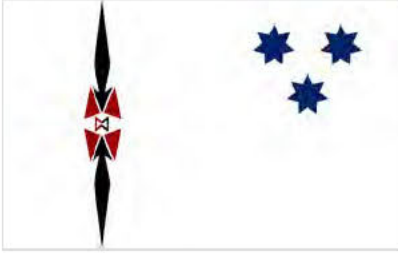
4116

Relationship to Illinois

I attended Southern Illinois University Edwardsville from 2018 to 2022 and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering. Moving from Nepal at the age of nineteen, Illinois is the first state I called home in the U.S. and it will always hold a special place in my heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The geometric shapes on the left honor the Native populations of Illinois and their artistic traditions, while also symbolizing the 90th Meridian Line that passes through the state. The three stars in the top right represent Illinois' three historic capitals* Kaskaskia, Vandalia, and Springfield. With a total of 21 points, they signify Illinois as the 21st state. The blue color on the white background pays tribute to the centennial flag of Illinois designed by Wallace Rice in 1918.



4117

Relationship to Illinois

This is a student submission from an Illinois School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Four stars from the Chicago flag. The city of Chicago, the Mississippi river, and a forest with the state flower common blue violet.



4118

Relationship to Illinois

I am not an Illinoisan, but have tremendous respect for the proud Indigenous and American history at the heart of our country and continent, where the Great Lakes meet our greatest river systems, from the ancient Mississippian culture to the historic Land of Lincoln and beyond.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag highlights a rendition of the Peoria Falcon, a Mississippian culture copper artifact from about the year 1200, from a settlement of the same era as Cahokia. The rendition is by my friend Jerone Hsu, and the falcon is holding the state grass, big bluestem. The overall design is inspired by the Illinois Centennial Flag, with the broad blue band representing the lake and river systems, and 21 stars for our 21st state.

4119

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Chicago and my partner's family has lived in Illinois for decades.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For Illinois's first 100 years of statehood in 1918, Wallace Rice designed a centennial flag that had three horizontal bands of equal width alternating white, blue, white. It was charged with 21 stars along the edge of the hoist. This flag has the same number of stars as his-reflecting the number of states in the union when Illinois joined-but the total number of points on the stars now reflect the number of counties in Illinois, with the central star resembling Chicago's four stars.



4120

Relationship to Illinois

I went to K-8 at Joseph Sears in Kenilworth, IL and then to New Trier High School. My parents both grew up in Illinois (Evanston and Glen Ellyn), and my mom's parents grew up in Illinois (Chicago and Glen Ellyn). I am a current resident of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents Lake Michigan, and in each of the two clusters of waves, there are 21 lines in each, symbolizing that Illinois is the 21st state. The grey area has a silhouette of the Chicago skyline on the border of the lake (blue above) and farmland (yellow below). The yellow at the bottom represents the farmland and the 1818 is when the requirements for Illinois to become a state was laid out. 1869 is when the present seal was adopted. These are in a font that represents the cornfields.

4121

Relationship to Illinois

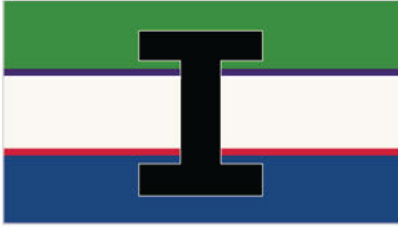
I am a resident of Illinois living in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind the flag is simple: the Cardinal is the official bird of Illinois, and it stands proudly over one of the many rivers that run through the state of Illinois. This imagery is contained in one of the 50 stars in the US flag. The violet background represents the official flower of the state as well. This flag represents our connection to the nature of this wonderful state. It's more than just Chicago or Peoria or Springfield; it's Illinois.



4122



Relationship to Illinois

I was born there and spent the first 19 years of my life there. I still have family that live in the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Each color represents a different aspect of the state. The blue represents the waters of Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The green represents the abundant agriculture in the state. The white, violet, and red represent the state tree, flower, and bird. Of course, the "I" stands for Illinois, but also industry in the state.

4123



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois, as were my parents and grandparents. I grew up here, went to college here, and have lived and worked here my entire adult life. This state is my home, and I feel deeply invested in its future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow field symbolizes the agricultural heartlands of downstate Illinois. The red star symbolizes the city of Chicago, the heart of the state's economic life. The blue stripes symbolize Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River, the connection between which was vital to the state's development.

4124



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois, in the beautiful village of La Grange.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The tri-color background of the flag is an enlarged and re-stylized landscape that is located on the current flag (located in the state seal) - with the green stripe representing the prairie, the blue stripe representing water of Lake Michigan, and the yellow sun rising up into the sky. On the left side of the flag is a silhouette of Abraham Lincoln, our state's most famous president.

4125

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois. Moved away a few times, but came back as an adult and have lived in the state for the last 25 years. This is where I have raised my children and built my life.



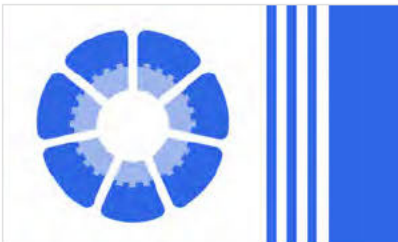
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background depicts an abstract take on a sunset on the prairie, as Illinois is the prairie state, and to represent the rural communities. Blue and orange chosen as colors (unofficially) of the state. The central six-point star represents Chicago, the main urban center. The other stars lie in the prairie to represent the other urban/suburban areas throughout the state. In total, all points on all stars equal 21, as Illinois is the 21st state in the union.

4126

Relationship to Illinois

As someone born, raised, and educated in the state of Illinois, I am proud to call Illinois home and plan to do so for life. I believe strongly that my character and view of the world as a citizen and as an architect has been shaped by the cultural, geographic, economic, historic, and architectural diversity of our state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four dark blue bars in this submission represent the four geographic features that hold the greatest geographic, economic, and historic significance in the creation of Illinois: Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, the Ohio River, and the Chicago River/Illinois River system. The corn kernels and 21-pronged gear that form our state flower, the violet, represent the agricultural and industrial foundations of our state and its status as the 21st state admitted to the Union.

4127

Relationship to Illinois

I am not an Illinoisan, but have tremendous respect for the proud Indigenous and American history at the heart of our country and continent, where the Great Lakes meet our greatest river systems, from the ancient Mississippian culture to the historic Land of Lincoln and beyond.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag highlights a rendition of the Peoria Falcon, a Mississippian culture copper artifact from about the year 1200, from a settlement of the same era as Cahokia. The rendition is from an archaeological drawing. The overall design is inspired by the Illinois Centennial Flag, with the broad blue band representing the lake and river systems, and 21 stars for our 21st state. As a bonus, in this version the vertical band and the horizontal stars give a nod to Lincoln's stovepipe hat.



4128

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since 2009; I am a wife to a farmer, a nurse practitioner, and a mother.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is meant to exhibit both our rural and urban communities, united together.

4129

Relationship to Illinois

As someone born, raised, and educated in the state of Illinois, I am proud to call Illinois home and plan to do so for life. I believe strongly that my character and view of the world as a citizen and as an architect has been shaped by the cultural, geographic, economic, historic, and architectural diversity of our state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four dark blue bars in this submission represent the four geographic features that hold the greatest geographic, economic, and historic significance in the creation of Illinois: Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, the Ohio River, and the Chicago River/Illinois River system. The corn kernels and 21-pronged gear that form our state flower, the violet, represent the agricultural and industrial foundations of our state and its status as the 21st state admitted to the Union.

4130

Relationship to Illinois

I went to K-8 at Joseph Sears in Kenilworth, IL and then to New Trier High School. My parents both grew up in Illinois (Evanston and Glen Ellyn), and my mom's parents grew up in Illinois (Chicago and Glen Ellyn). I am a current resident of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has a light green background that represents the prairieland in Illinois. In the flag there are 2 butterflies that symbolize the monarch, the Illinois state insect. There are 2 butterflies, the dark blue larger one represents lake Michigan while the light blue represents the rivers that run all around Illinois. In the 4 corners of the butterfly there are 4 stars, just like the 4 star in the Chicago flag, to symbolize Chicago. 2 are yellow(the farm land) and 2 are red (the city).

4131

Relationship to Illinois

As a proud Illinoisan, I take pleasure in experiencing and contributing to the state's vibrant cultural life. As an architectural designer, I partner with communities from the shores of Lake Michigan to the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers at the state's southernmost tip to envision a more inclusive, interactive, and joyful built environment. As an architecture professor at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, I also seek to inspire future generations of creative citizens.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag abstracts the state of Illinois's geography, wildlife, agrarian heartland, and urban life. A blue triangle represents Lake Michigan perched at the state's upper shoulder, while a vertical blue stripe represents the Mississippi River along the state's western edge. The center graphic offers a new star for Illinois, blending Chicago's iconic 6-pointed star with 6 corn kernels of the state's agricultural heart. The red kernels could alternately be interpreted as a circle of cardinal heads.



4132

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since I was born here in 2011.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The prairie and corn field represent the agricultural side of Illinois. The Chicago skyline overlooking the corn field symbolizes the city of architecture, one aspect that Illinois is famous for. The shining sunrise symbolizes a joyful feeling and a sense of progress for the state. The blue background symbolizes waters of Illinois including Lake Michigan.



4133

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois taught me the value of community and hard work, and the state will always hold a special place in my heart. I am proud to have been raised in such a vibrant and welcoming environment, and I carry the lessons I learned there with me wherever I go. The memories and experiences from my time in Illinois continue to influence my outlook on life in meaningful ways. Illinois has played a significant role in my life and I am glad to call it home.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag represents our heritage and promise. The sun symbolizes the warmth of our prairies, and the yellow color represents hope and optimism. White embodies unity and peace, while the green ring signifies our expansive prairies, openness, and growth. Altogether, it symbolizes warmth, unity, hope, and endless possibilities for a brighter future.

4134

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois. Moved away a few times, but came back as an adult and have lived in the state for the last 25 years. This is where I have raised my children and built my life.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The background depicts an abstract image of a sunset on a prairie, as Illinois is the prairie state, as well as to represent the rural communities in the state. The blue and orange were chosen as unofficial colors of the state. The large central six-point star represents urban areas as an homage to stars on Chicago's flag. 20 more stars form a circle, creating a total of 21 stars as Illinois is the 21st state in the union.

4135

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Rockford, Illinois, but I have not lived there since I was 5 years old. I have family still living in the area today, and since it is my birthplace, the state has always held a special place in my heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois was the 21st state to enter the union, so I featured 21 stars on the flag, placing the 21st one over approximately where the state capital is. As for the color, I chose dark blue/purple for the background; reminiscent of the night sky. Also, the violet as a nod to the state flower.



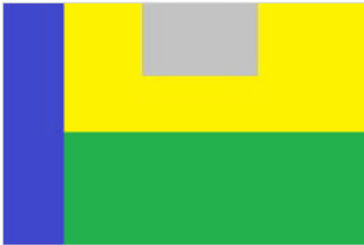
4136

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue for Mississippi to the west. Gray for the impressive industrial / technology base. Yellow for Illinois agriculture. Green for the beautiful nature that abounds in the south of the state'



4137

Relationship to Illinois

lived here all my life

Explain the meaning behind your flag

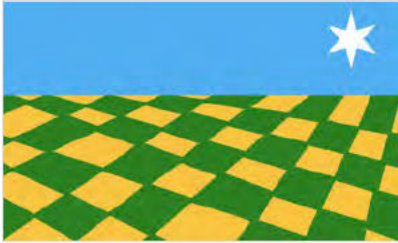
no meaning behind it



4138

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois for 23 years, and my parents still call it home, so I visit frequently. Over time, I've developed a deep appreciation for its diverse landscapes, from the wetlands and cornfields to the vibrant cityscapes, all steeped in the rich history of the Prairie State. I want to create a flag that honors this unique heritage. Now living in Texas for work, I find myself missing Illinois dearly.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag illustrates what it looks like from an aerial view of Illinois and its beautiful patch quilt like patch work. You can see cornfields for miles and then the top right of the state you have Chicago right next to Lake Michigan. I wanted to feel as though you could see our geographic landscape in this flag. Colors: Green = native wetlands & Prairie grass. Gold = Illinois's agricultural heritage. Blue = Lake Michigan & the Mississippi. White Star = Chicago, a call back to the city flag.

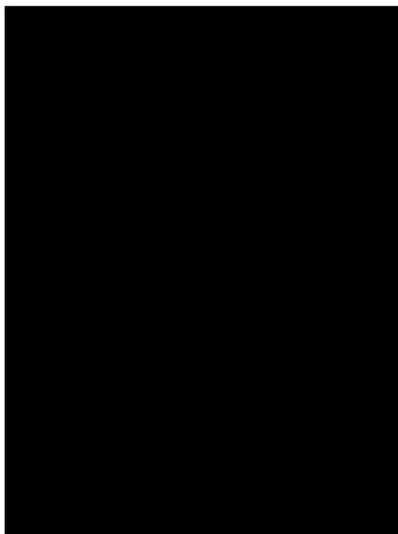
4139

Relationship to Illinois

Im a Chicago bears fan. Have been my whole life. We goin back to the bowl baby

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Unity. Life. Tavis.



4140

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the suburbs of Wheeling, Illinois. I graduated from Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago and love attending the Sweet Corn Festival in the rural area of Mendota. My relationship with Illinois is expansive. I take whatever the state offers me with the most excellent intentions and care and wish to give back. The Illinoisian experience is something no other state can beat, and I hope future generations can experience everything it offers.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Children are our future. Not only is the cardinal our state bird, or the sweet corn our state vegetable, but both are voted and billed as state symbols by children—a feat that should be celebrated with pride and recognized by the state and its citizens. Corn can be found anywhere in the state, in the crops of rural areas, in the backyards of suburban homes, or in pots of urban spaces. As cardinals call our state home, their distinctive chirp is heard everywhere, uniting Illinoisians in song.

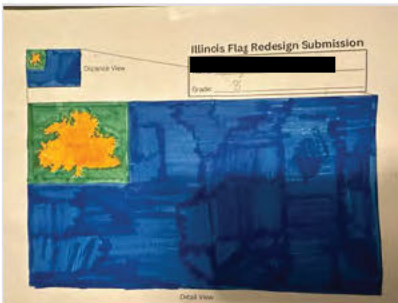
4141

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois since I was born in 2011.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's blue background represents the big sky of Illinois. The amber-colored oak tree is the state tree, and the color symbolizes wealth and creativity of the people of Illinois. I chose dark green as my last color because it reminds me of the nature and environment in Illinois.



4142

Relationship to Illinois

Born there and lived there from 67 to 90 and 99 to 2018

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Very marketable



4143

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois for 23 years, and my parents still call it home, so I visit frequently. Over time, I've developed a deep appreciation for its diverse landscapes, from the wetlands and cornfields to the vibrant cityscapes, all steeped in the rich history of the Prairie State. I want to create a flag that honors this unique heritage. Now living in Texas for work, I find myself missing Illinois dearly.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag captures the essence of Illinois from top to bottom. The lower two-thirds showcases the state's agricultural fields, wetlands, & forests, while the upper section evokes the vibrant city of Chicago & the beauty of Lake Michigan. These elements represent my deep love for the state & deserve to be included. Colors: Green = native wetlands & Prairie grass. Gold = Illinois's agricultural heritage. Blue = Lake Michigan & the Mississippi. White Star = Chicago, a call back to the city flag.

4144

Relationship to Illinois

Born and lived there most of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Very eye catching



4145

Relationship to Illinois



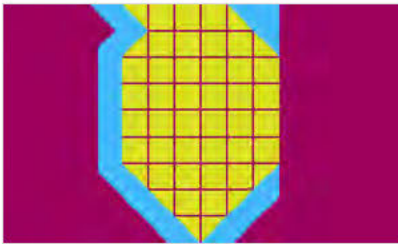
I was born and raised in Illinois for 23 years, and my parents still call it home, so I visit frequently. Over time, I've developed a deep appreciation for its diverse landscapes, from the wetlands and cornfields to the vibrant cityscapes, all steeped in the rich history of the Prairie State. I want to create a flag that honors this unique heritage. Now living in Texas for work, I find myself missing Illinois dearly.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illustrates fundamentals that make up Illinois: Green for the foundation of Illinois, the forest and wetlands, gold to represent the agriculture that covers Illinois current landscapes, and blue to represent Lake Michigan and the beautiful sky that you see during a summers day in Illinois, and finally that white star to represent Chicago.

4146

Relationship to Illinois



As a proud Illinoisan, I take pleasure in experiencing and contributing to the state's vibrant cultural life. As an architectural designer, I partner with communities from the shores of Lake Michigan to the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers at the state's southernmost tip to envision a more inclusive, interactive, and joyful built environment. As an architecture professor at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, I also seek to inspire future generations of creative citizens.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag abstracts the state of Illinois's geography, major bodies of water, and agrarian heartland. A blue triangle represents Lake Michigan perched at the state's upper shoulder, while blue stripes represent the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers that delineate Illinois's iconic shape. The graphic could alternately be interpreted as an abstract shaft of corn, celebrating the crop that saturates and sustains the state's landscape from north to south.



4147

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

No specific meaning. Just a redesign.



4148

Relationship to Illinois

Even though I don't live in Illinois, I have recognized its great significance and beauty. I have visited Chicago twice - the first trip going to the Shedd Aquarium, the second time going to Medieval Times and the Museum of Science and History. Though I have only been to Chicago, I already believe that Illinois is a fantastic place to visit. Overall, Illinois is a great state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My second flag also has cultural, historical, and geographical meaning to Illinois. It basically shows a map of a river dividing a prairie from a forest. There is a 21-pointed star that is made of three stars that are colored red, white, and blue and a white star which represents Illinois's admission to the United States as the 21st state. Like the first submission, the colors represents the growth, optimism, peace, hope, and loyalty of Illinois.



4149

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and I have lived here my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A simple design with "1818" to represent the year Illinois enter the Union.

4150

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and lived here all my life. I proudly call this state my home. I love it here with my whole heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two thick red horizontal stripes represent 20 and the thinner white line in between adds a 1 to show that Illinois was the 21st state of the union. The main colors are red, white, and blue to show Illinois' relationship with the the US. Likewise, the star represents that it is just one state among the fifty. The silhouette is of Illinois. The dark and light blue represents both the advancements in both agriculture and urbanism. horizontal stripes show interstate connectivity.



4151

Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident since 1978 and have lived throughout the Chicagoland area since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design for the Illinois state flag highlights the recognizable shape of the state. The simplicity of the design is meant to coexist in harmony with the iconic Chicago flag.



4152

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois. Moved away a few times, but returned to the state as an adult. I have lived here the past 25 years. I have raised my children here and built my life here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag depicts the image of the sunset over the prairie, since Illinois is the prairie state, and to represent the rural communities throughout the state. The large central six-pointed star represents the city of Chicago, the main urban center of Illinois, placed such that the star seems like sunlight beaming off the city. The other stars represent the other urban/suburban areas throughout the prairie state. In total the points of stars equals 21, as Illinois is the 21st state in the union.



4153



Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident since 1978 and have lived throughout the Chicagoland area since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design for the Illinois state flag highlights the recognizable shape of the state. The simplicity of the design is meant to coexist in harmony with the iconic Chicago flag.

4154



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and spent most of my life here. I've moved away a few times for school and for work but always come back home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Black and white reflect the contrast of Illinois, a world class city with world class farmland, the tallest skyscrapers in the flattest landscape, famous art and architecture alongside infamous criminals. Those contrasts come together to create our unique home.

4155



Relationship to Illinois

Proud resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue for Mississippi to the west. Gray for the impressive industrial / technology base. Yellow for Illinois agriculture. Green for the beautiful nature that abounds in the south of the state. And the hawk represents the sharp, competitive edge of the people of Illinois as shown by its native hunter.

4156



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and I have lived here my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to incorporate some of the current flag's design elements so I utilized a shield design with stars and stripes similar to the shield on the current flag. There is also a banner/ribbon with "Illinois" printed on it.

4157



Relationship to Illinois

I am a proud graduate of Woodland Middle School and Warren Township High School in Gurnee, Illinois, and a former resident of the Rogers Park neighborhood in Chicago. Although I have been away from the state for the last four years, Illinois will always be where I am from and where I call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design highlights the role that land and water play in shaping our state. The swallowtail shape of the flag cuts two points into the blue field, symbolizing Illinois' two major bodies of water*Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. Fourteen green diagonal lines represent the state's fourteen natural geographic divisions, while the 21-point star commemorates Illinois' entry as the 21st state in the Union.

4158

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is a special place to grow up-I was born and raised in DuPage county but have travelled throughout most of the state for school, sports, and other recreational reasons. What I think makes Illinois special is the proximity of vastly different lifestyles available. Living in Illinois has given me the opportunity to grow up in the suburbs, vacation in urban Chicago-rich in culture, history, art, etc.-and attend college in a rural community within a relatively short 2 hour travel radius.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design showcases the 5 main geographical regions of Illinois-the prairie, lake, suburban, urban, and rural areas. The yellow triangle represents the prairie and alludes to the sun in the original design. The deep blue symbolizes the lake. The 3 stripes, light blue and white, represent the 3 community types. The stripes also innocuously reference the Chicago flag through color and arrangement. The prairie in the design symbolically connects, overlaps, and decides on the rest of the design.

4159

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and lived here all my life. I proudly call this state my home. I love it here with my whole heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two thick orange horizontal stripes represent 20 and the thin white line in between adds a 1 to show that Illinois was the 21st state of the union. The main colors are white and blue to show Illinois' relationship with the US. The star represents that it is just one state among the fifty. The silhouette on the right is of Illinois. The dark and light blue represents both the advancements in both agriculture and urbanism. horizontal stripes show interstate connectivity. Orange for prairie state.



4160



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for 24 years after living in Indiana.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents various important aspects of Illinois. The purple fields of Bluestem grass symbolize the state's natural beauty. The 21 stars mark Illinois as the 21st state to join the Union. Finally the bold cardinal, our state bird, adds a lively touch, reflecting the spirit of both the wildlife and the people of Illinois. Together, these elements capture the essence of the state.

4161



Relationship to Illinois

I have been an Illinois resident my whole 29 years of life, although I may not have been born here this plain land in the Midwest is all I know to be my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted this flag to be a symbol that highlight it's people from the many tribes of Native Americans at the foundation of our state, to its hardworking people I wanted to give meaning to the of city of broad shoulders, I also wanted to showcase hope and prosperity in the next generation of Illinoisians through the young woman. I had to show the rich iconography we have to offer here in Illinois, from our architecture in Chicago to our beautiful capital in Springfield, and the vast amount of corn.

4162



Relationship to Illinois

I'm a student at Concordia university Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The violet flower is commonly associated with love, honesty, protection, dreams, healing, remembrance, and determination The choice to illustrate violets on the Illinois flag is not merely for decorative purposes, but rather to evoke a feeling of cherished for this state The people I met here so far are kind and honest My goal for the flag is whenever people glance at the flag they can have the encouragement to stay confident The Illinois state symbol for birds is the cardinal

4163

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and lived here all my life. I proudly call this state my home. I love it here with my whole heart.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two thick orange horizontal stripes represent 20 and thin white line in between adds 1 to show that Illinois was the 21st state of the union. Main colors are orange, white, blue to show Illinois' relationship with the US and prairie. The star represents that it is just one state among the fifty. The silhouette is of Illinois. The orange and dark blue represents both the advancements in both agriculture and urbanism. horizontal stripes show interstate connectivity. Light blue for water: lake MI, MS river.



4164

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Middle School Social Science teacher in Chicago, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Orange represents the diversity of native american nations in Illinois. Green represents the green plains, hills and countryside of Illinois and blue represents all of the lakes, rivers and waterways of our state. The eagle represents our country.



4166

Relationship to Illinois

I spent the vast majority of my childhood and thus far all of my adulthood in Chicago's suburbs. I remember growing up and visiting Starved Rock on warm summer days or taking the Metra to Chicago on snowy weekends. I remember being amazed when I drove into Galena for the first time. Illinois is my home, not only because it is where I live, but because I have come to appreciate our rich history, natural beauty, and most importantly warm people.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design is composed of 3 horizontal lines, white, yellow, and blue. The blue represents the lakes and the rivers. The yellow represents the prairies and fields of agriculture. The white represents snow. There are 3 seven-pointed stars representing northern, central, and southern Illinois. In total the 21 points represent Illinois being the 21st state.

4167

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and spent my childhood in the state. I have many fond memories of growing up in the state and having family and friends there. From playing in the local parks to attending community events, my experiences in Illinois have shaped who I am today. The friendly neighborhoods, the changing seasons, and the sense of community are all things that I cherish about Illinois. It's a place that will always hold a special place in my heart, no matter where life takes me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag of Illinois is rich in symbolism. The soft golden color on the flag represents the state's official fruit, the Gold Rush Apple. Additionally, the orange color on the flag signifies Illinois as the leading producer of pumpkins. The 13 stars on the flag are a symbol of unity and also serve as a reminder of the state's pivotal role in history. Illinois was the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment to abolish slavery, and the 13 stars on the flag display this significant achievement.

4168



Relationship to Illinois

My son was born in Chicago and has been lived in the state for his entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The two blue stripes symbolize two major public waters of the state: the Illinois River and Lake Michigan. The green represents the prairie state's namesake farmland and fields. The white represents the snow that coats the state every winter.

4169

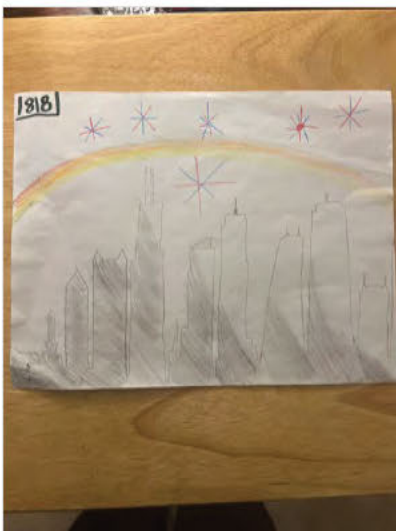


Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the great prairie state of Illinois. So much of my integrity and character has been formed by the association of hardworking and wise people of this land. I've gained so much from being educated by its schools and sustained by Illinois' fertile soil and freshwater sources.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Firstly, a representation of Illinois being the 1st state to ratify the 13th amendment of the constitution of the US. The first step in historic freedom. Secondly, they represent the 13 original tribes of the Illiniwek confederation, who were the original indigenous tribes of this land. Gold is the color of power and triumph. Blue is symbolic of the air and water: freedom, communication, trust, authority, and wisdom. The color white is a representation of new beginnings.



4170

Relationship to Illinois

Submitting for my daughter Gabrielle Ladeairous Her relationship to IL is that she was born in IL and is current IL resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning of her flag is celebrating the future of IL.



4171

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Middle School Social Science Teacher in Chicago,il.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The feather cap represents the Tribal Nations in Illinois. This is my submission



4172

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois resident since 1964

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A variation of the Centennial flag, accompanied by red, green and gold



4173

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident and graduate of the University of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Three major orange segments represent the northern, central, and southern Illinois regions. Two wide blue stripes represent the major bodies of water in Illinois: Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The thin blue strip represents the Illinois River which flows through the middle of the state. The flag is designed to visually complement the flag of Chicago by having the same dimensions and stripe ratios. Colors are in orange and blue, aligning with the U. of Illinois and Chicago Bear colors.

4174

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the great prairie state of Illinois. So much of my integrity and character has been formed by the association of hardworking and wise people of this land. I've gained so much from being educated by its schools and sustained by Illinois' fertile soil and freshwater sources.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 13 stars are: Firstly, a representation of Illinois being the 1st state to ratify the 13th amendment of the constitution of the US. The first step in historic freedom. Secondly, they represent the 13 original tribes of the Illiniwek confederation, who were the original indigenous tribes of this land. Gold is the color of power and triumph. Blue is symbolic of the air and water: freedom, communication, trust, authority, and wisdom. The color white is a representation of new beginnings.

4175

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the great prairie state of Illinois. So much of my integrity and character has been formed by the association of hardworking and wise people of this land. I've gained so much from being educated by its schools and sustained by Illinois' fertile soil and freshwater sources.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 13 stars are: Firstly, a representation of Illinois being the 1st state to ratify the 13th amendment of the constitution of the US. The first step in historic freedom. Secondly, they represent the 13 original tribes of the Illiniwek confederation, who were the original indigenous tribes of this land. Gold is the color of power and triumph. Blue is symbolic of the air and water: freedom, communication, trust, authority, and wisdom. The color white is a representation of new beginnings.

4176



Relationship to Illinois

A resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue represents the major bodies of water of Illinois including the Great Lakes, the Mississippi River, and the Illinois River. White represents industry and the beautiful cities of Illinois. Yellow represents agriculture and prairies. The seal is the State Seal of Illinois.

4177



Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue in the background of the flag represents the many waterways surrounding Illinois that make up its borders, including the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The Picture in the center is US President Abraham Lincoln who was from Illinois, and as such is important to our culture. The twenty-one stars surrounding Lincoln represent Illinois as the twenty-first state to be admitted into the Union. The combination of red white and blue represents Illinois as part of the US.

4178

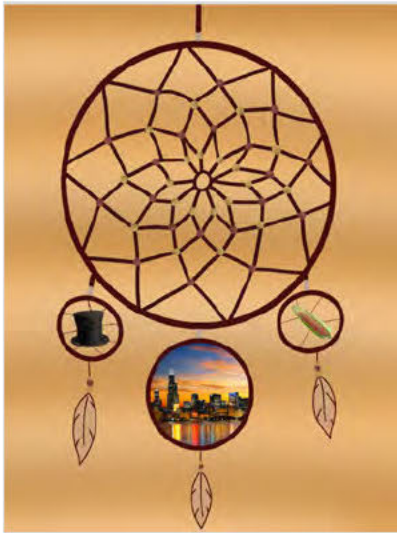


Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue in the background of the flag represents the many waterways surrounding Illinois that make up its borders, including the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The Picture in the center is US President Abraham Lincoln who was from Illinois, and as such is important to our culture. The twenty-one stars surrounding Lincoln represent Illinois as the twenty-first state to be admitted into the Union. The combination of red white and blue represents Illinois as part of the US.



4179

Relationship to Illinois

My husband is from Illinois. We met down south where I grew up and we came back to live here, get married and have a family. Illinois became my home as well.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Dreamcatcher represents our Native American roots. The Nation's most significant and influential President hails from Illinois. We see Abraham Lincoln's top hat in this design.* The corn represents our current*farming/agricultural community. The Chicago skyline is depicted, but that could also be changed to a Springfield skyline.



4180

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue in the background of the flag represents the many waterways surrounding Illinois that make up its borders, including the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The Picture in the center is US President Abraham Lincoln who was from Illinois, and as such is important to our culture. The twenty-one stars surrounding Lincoln represent Illinois as the twenty-first state to be admitted into the Union. The combination of red white and blue represents Illinois as part of the US.



4181

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue in the background of the flag represents the many waterways surrounding Illinois that make up its borders, including the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The Picture in the center is US President Abraham Lincoln who was from Illinois, and as such is important to our culture. The twenty-one stars surrounding Lincoln represent Illinois as the twenty-first state to be admitted into the Union.



4182

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag was designed for the new flag design of Illinois.

4183

Relationship to Illinois

Even though I don't live in Illinois, I have recognized its great significance and beauty. I have visited Chicago twice - the first trip going to the Shedd Aquarium, the second time going to Medieval Times and the Museum of Science and History. Though I have only been to Chicago, I already believe that Illinois is a fantastic place to visit. Overall, Illinois is a great state!



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My third flag also has cultural, historical, and geographical meaning to Illinois. The flag has the same geographical and cultural symbolism as my other two designs. The flag has a blue chevron with two stripes - one green, one yellow - and a red six-pointed star which represents Chicago, which is in the top right corner which depicts its location. The star represents how all of Illinois - not just Chicago - has played a major part in American culture.

4184

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois, in the beautiful village of La Grange.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features two main colors, purple and orange. The orange section of the flag has a butterfly wing and is supposed to represent the monarch butterfly, the state butterfly. The violet color represents the state flower - the violet and the state mineral - fluorite (as violet is one of the common colors of the mineral found in Illinois). The three stars represent north, central and south Illinois. And the fleur-de-lis represents the early French settlers of the state.



4185

Relationship to Illinois

My name is Warren Taylor, and I have lived all 11 years of my life in the great state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red in my flag represents the blood of the people of Illinois in all the wars this state has ever fought. The blue in my flag represents all of the lakes and rivers in Illinois, including Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. It also represents the blues music that was created in Chicago. The green in my flag represents the cornfields found across Illinois. The white in my flag represents the unknown but hopeful future of our great state.



4186

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose to put the outline of the state of Illinois in the center of the flag of our country because our state is a part of the country.



4187

Relationship to Illinois

Grew up in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Monarch winged white buck tailed cardinal with Illinois flowers and such (milkweed etc) This is a second entry similar design minus the background.



4188

Relationship to Illinois

I have an INCREDIBLY long relationship with the great state of Illinois as I was born, raised and still proudly staying here in the great IL

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag encapsulates the great history of our state in all locations! For one, the pyramid refers to our great southern area known as little Egypt. Secondly you have the Piasa Bird which is a Madison County Native American legend that still intrigues people today! Thirdly is the famous Chicago stars/ colors representing the south. I hope you enjoy my first of three submissions!



4189

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois high schooler who has been born and raised here. I have spent the entirety of my life growing up in the western suburbs of Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 4 lines coming to converge are meant to represent Illinois interconnection. They represent waterways, airways, railroads, and the interstate. Each allows the people of Illinois to be connected throughout the state and also form a bridge to connect with the rest of the nation. Growing from the convergence of the lines is a depiction of wheat to highlight the state's agriculture and commitment to continued outward growth. The wheat also is a nod to Lincoln through the Lincoln Centennial Penny.



4190

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Middle School Social Science Teacher in Chicago, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My name is Kristerfer and this is my submission. The tree represents the lush land and green foliage, plants, trees and land our state has. The water represents the many waterways, rivers and lakes our state has and the sun holding a Native American Headband respects the people who lived here before invasion.





4191

Relationship to Illinois

I am a 10 year old boy who was born in Illinois and have lived here ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green and the yellow stripes on my flag represent the prairie state. The blue on my flag represent Lake Michigan and all the other bodies of water in Illinois and the purple flower in the middle represents the state flower, the violet.



4192

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue on the top represents the sky and the yellow on the bottom represents corn fields. The star represents the state and the green represents how Illinois has developed and grown as a state.



4193

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student in a public school in Illinois. I was born in Illinois and have lived here my whole life. I live in rural Illinois and have visited cities within Illinois. I have learned about the diversity we have in Illinois from my classes in school.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag design I submitted is a diamond shape with a banner covering parts of it. The diamond shape demonstrates a change that we as a state are trying to instate. The flag also features grass, corn, and some pumpkins; having been born and raised in the more rural parts of Illinois I felt it necessary to incorporate this in some form. The American flag and eagle represent the whole U.S.A. Finally there's a cityscape in the background to show Illinois roots in urban life.

4194

Relationship to Illinois

My parents were born and raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My redesigned Illinois flag features a teal star on a black background. The star symbolizes Illinois' central role in the nation, with Chicago as its shining centerpiece, known for its diverse culture, industry, and global influence. The black background reflects the state's industrial strength and resilience, especially in Chicago's history as a hub for railroads, architecture, and labor movements. Teal, a blend of blue and green, represents Illinois' blend of urban vibrancy and natural beauty.



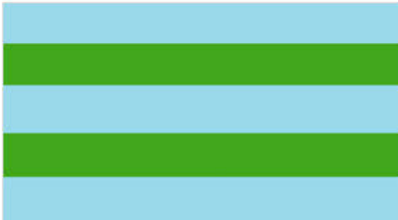
4195

Relationship to Illinois

I'm proud to call Illinois home and have been a resident here for almost 20 years. I attended the University of Illinois at Chicago, and now work for that same institution.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag symbolizes the natural wonders of Illinois through a simple, yet memorable and attractive design. The top blue stripe represents Lake Michigan, the bottom blue stripe represents the Mississippi River, and the middle blue stripe represents all the rivers, lakes, and streams in between. The upper green stripe is for the green prairie and woodlands of Illinois, and the lower green stripe is for the verdant agriculture our state produces for our rich soil.



4196

Relationship to Illinois

My maternal grandfather was born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Heck yeah Illinois baby





4197

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived here ever since and I am going to create the new Illinois State Flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I decided to draw the Illinois state in the middle with corn inside of it and buildings in the background to represent all of the cities that have grown big since the last Illinois flag such as Springfield, Bloomington and Peoria. I have an eagle for our country and the America shield because it was on the old flag. I put the red ribbon out lining the state and it says that same thing as the old flag. The year Illinois became a state at the top. Finally I put the word Illinois at the bottom to r



4198

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

With the meaning of my flg I hoped to merge tradition with a modernist interpretation. I kept the the Eagle, and state crest from the original state flag. I redesigned the eagle to reinterpret the National symbol in a more modern and angular Style. I utilized every color from the original flag in my flag as a way to maintain tradition in this modern interpretation. I aimed to keep the Regal Aura from the original but in my own style

4199

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in the Chicago area, and Illinois has been my state of residence all my life. For nearly 20 years, my job has involved mapping hazards across the state (mostly flooding). Over that time, I have visited numerous locations in all corners of Illinois and am looking forward to further exploration of my home state. I like to learn about the history and culture of the state and run an Illinois-themed trivia contest with my work group each year.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue of the top half represents the water of Illinois (rivers and lakes). The green at the bottom represents the land of Illinois (prairie, forest, agriculture). The three white stars each represent a capital of IL (Kaskaskia, Vandalia, Springfield). The number of points on the stars add to 21, and Illinois is the 21st state.

4200

Relationship to Illinois

I have an INCREDIBLY long relationship with the great state of Illinois as I was born, raised and still proudly staying here in the great IL

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents all areas of Illinois! The pyramid refers to southern Illinois known by the nickname "little Egypt". The stars and colors in the back are a homage to the famous Chicago colors. The Piasa Bird of Southern and central Illinois (specifically Alton and the Madison County area) is a Native American legend. The slight difference here from the first one is the addition of the American flag shield which is nearly the same one from our current design! I hope you like this one too!



4201



Relationship to Illinois

I am a ten year old boy that was born in Illinois and has live here ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stripes of yellow (which is on the bottom) and green (which is on the top) on my flag represent the Prairie State (Illinois.) The blue stripe (which is on the right) represents Lake Michigan and all the other bodies of water in Illinois, and the purple flower in the middle represents the Illinois state flower, the violet.

4202



Relationship to Illinois

My name is Warren Taylor, and I have lived all 11 years of my life in the great state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red in my flag is to represent the blood of the people of Illinois that fought in the many wars of our state. The blue in my flag represents the lakes and rivers of this state, including Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The blue also represents the blues music made in Chicago, Illinois. The green in my flag represents the cornfields that can be found across Illinois. The white in my flag is to represent the unknowable future, but also the hope we have for the future.

4203



Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. I also grew up in Illinois. Illinois is truly my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag depicts the state's vast agricultural land and blue skies with our roads running through it. It was inspired by driving across this great state and, while simple, shows how stunning the landscape can be. The green is taken from the current flag and represents our soy fields. The blue is also taken from the state flag and represents the sky, the rivers & Lake Michigan. The grey represents our roads and the urban development that Chicago is so well known for.

4204

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here. Over the span of my lifetime I never left and don't plan on leaving this state. I have been fortunate enough to make the journeys in all directions throughout Illinois and have experienced all the different lifestyles that exist here, but most importantly I feel I have a good grasp of the culture that Illinois represents.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The shield represents American flag colors to show our strength/connection to USA. 21 stars represent Illinois becoming the 21st state & the state motto "State Sovereignty, National Unity". There is a state oak tree in the center of the shield. Two white horizontal lines symbolize our farmland & prairie. The blue horizontal stripe runs integrated into our lands divided into two sections Lake Michigan & Mississippi River.

4205

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I made a new design for the Illinois state flag. I have attended a public school in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I drew a flag with the Illinois logo, corn to represent the rural areas, and Chicago in the background to represent the cities. I included the year Illinois was made a state, and Illinois located at the bottom. I added the red ribbon from the last Illinois flag, with the corresponding terms on it. I kept the background white so the name of the state and the images of the corn and buildings would stand out.



4206



Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of the city of Chicago, born and raised in the South Austin neighborhood.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The central element of this minimalist design is one of the Chicago Rivers emptying into Lake Michigan on the horizon, honoring their history of major contributions to the economy via tourism and trade.

4207



Relationship to Illinois

Twenty-five years ago, my parents*like so many others*came to the US in search of the American Dream. They had 50 states to choose from and found Illinois as their new home. My parents chose to settle in Illinois not because it is the state where the American Dream continues to flourish. It is the state where they have been able to raise their children, and have called home ever since.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Gold Prairie" The gold represents the golden prairies and farmland found in the heart of Illinois. Bounded by two streaks of blue, these represent the two most important bodies of water: the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. A circle of 21 blue stars represents the 21st state to the union. At the center is a six-pointed red star, representing the six main tribes that called Illinois home: the Illinois, Miami, Winnebago, Fox and Sacs (Sauk), Kickapoo, and Pottawatomie tribes.

4208

Relationship to Illinois

Proud resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Green for agriculture and the rows of corn and soy that define the farmers of our state. The yellow represents the sun shining on the verdant fields of grain. The blue represents the crucial waterways of our state. The black represents the coal and oil resources that were fundamental to the development of our great country. Finally gray represents the ever-burgeoning technology and industry that continues to grow in Illinois.



4209

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois all my life and attend public school in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design represents the agricultural part of Illinois. My design includes a pumpkin which is something often harvested in Illinois. The artwork also included a ribbon, the state of Illinois, and that year it was founded. I think that each of these represent Illinois in its own way. The pumpkin shows that hard work is put into growing and harvesting different types of crops. The state and date it was founded represent how Illinois has changed over the years and how far it has come since.



4210

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of the City of Chicago, born and raised in the South Austin neighborhood.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This image is like my first design, except I added a bridge to symbolize unity between urban and rural residents via the rivers and Lake Michigan.



4211

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Illinois and I am 11 years old. I have grown up on our family farm. We raise corn, soybeans, alfalfa, have a cow/calf herd and raise beef cattle. I love nature and the outdoors and enjoy learning about agriculture. I love animals especially cats/kittens and enjoy doing art. Agriculture is an important part of our state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

On my flag in the middle is the state tree "oak" and to the left of the tree is the state bird "cardinal" and on the right is the state flower "violet". The ribbon on the top has the state color "orange" and lists the year Illinois became a state "1818" Thank you for considering my design!

4212

Relationship to Illinois



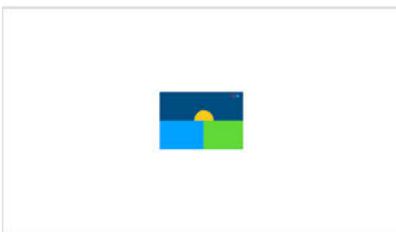
Born and raised in the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue 6 pointed star to represent the city of Chicago
Red triangle to represent deep dish pizza
Lower green bar to represent the health of our state and the vast and diverse environment of our state (Ohio River Valley, Chicago and the suburbs, Mississippi river valley, central plains and farmland)
Blue to represent the vast sky of rural Illinois

4213

Relationship to Illinois



I was born in Illinois in Evanston. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I love the diversity of Illinois. I learned about Illinois in 6th Grade Integrated Global Studies class.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the sun setting on the lake and a prairie. I chose a lake because Illinois has Lake Michigan, one of the largest in the world. I chose a prairie because Illinois is the prairie state. My flag also has 2 stars. These represent the years on the current Illinois flag. 1818: The year Illinois became a state. 1868: The year the seal of Illinois was redesigned.

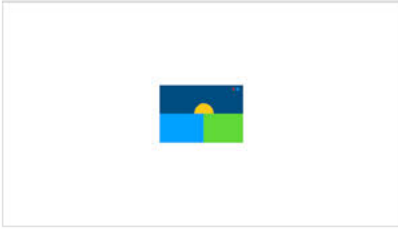
4214

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in Evanston. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I love the diversity of Illinois. I learned about Illinois in 6th Grade Integrated Global Studies class.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the sun setting on the lake and a prairie. I chose a lake because Illinois has Lake Michigan, one of the largest in the world. I chose a prairie because Illinois is the prairie state. My flag also has 2 stars. These represent the years on the current Illinois flag. 1818: The year Illinois became a state. 1868: The year the seal of Illinois was redesigned.



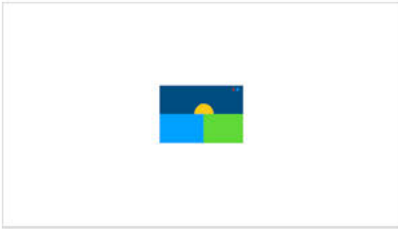
4215

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in Evanston. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I love the diversity of Illinois. I learned about Illinois in 6th Grade Integrated Global Studies class.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the sun setting on the lake and a prairie. I chose a lake because Illinois has Lake Michigan, one of the largest in the world. I chose a prairie because Illinois is the prairie state. My flag also has 2 stars. These represent the years on the current Illinois flag. 1818: The year Illinois became a state. 1868: The year the seal of Illinois was redesigned.



4216

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I moved away with my then fiancé but moved back when we decided to start a family. We have lived here ever since with our two teenage boys.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and orange colors are a well-received color combination in Illinois. The I represents Illinois and makes the flag easily recognizable.





4217

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Middle School Social Studies teacher

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The stripes represent our Nation and the Native American Chief represents our state.



4218

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and attend public school in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design represents the diversity in Illinois. I chose a circle for my design because we are all connected as Illinoisians. I included crops grown in Illinois to represent the rural parts of the state and the food that we grow here. I also included tall buildings that represent the cities like Chicago, Peoria, and Springfield. There is an American flag on top of the building because no matter what part of Illinois you are from, we are all part of America.



4219

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois is my permanent residence.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark blue background represents the waters of Lake Michigan. The gold cross represents the will and determination of the people. The blue star represents the state shining above all else with its magnificence and superiority.

4220

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised. From 1984-2002, I spent my childhood in central Illinois, I've lived and worked in Bloomington/Normal for 26 of my 40 years of life. My dad, sister, niece, and the majority of my aunts and uncles are still here. All of my grandparents are buried here. I found out about this commission only days ago after spending two years abroad. I found this old design from 2016 just today. It needs works. It lacks our current eagle, perhaps to be placed in white silhouette above the star.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This slice of Old Glory is also a nod to the French flag, banners which both stood here. A single star shines our contribution to the union. Abe's silhouette reminds us of our past. The red field highlights our present: Illinois' most iconic border, formed by the mighty Mississipp. It's steady flow, as progress itself, cuts through our banner in white leading us ever to the future. The flag still lacks any representation of our Illiniwek and Miami heritage, which should be added by their progeny.

4221

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design shows the outline of Illinois and also that Illinois is the 21st state with twenty stars around the border and the larger 21st in the center of the state. The blue background represents the many rivers of our state.



4222

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. I also grew up in Illinois. Illinois is truly my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag depicts Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River, the Wabash River, the Ohio River, Springfield, and Chicago. The rivers are the blue lines that outline most of this flag, vaguely outlining the state. Lake Michigan is the blue area in the top left corner. Springfield is the larger 5-pointed star representing the capital. Chicago is the smaller 6-pointed Chicago Star near Lake Michigan. The green represents agriculture, specifically soy. The colors are from the current Illinois flag.



4223

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

White 6 pointed star to represent Chicago (Correlated through: NE corner of the flag. NE corner of the state) Blue sky to represent a unified state (same sky over Chicago as is over the rural part of the state) and Lincoln (often associated with the color blue) Green bar to represent nation leading soybean production (1st in the nation) Yellow bar to represent nation leading corn production (#2 in the nation)



4224

Relationship to Illinois

I have an INCREDIBLY long relationship with the great state of Illinois as I was born, raised and still proudly staying here in the great IL

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The pyramid represents Southern Illinois as its known as "little Egypt". The Piasa Bird represents the central southern area of Madison county where it is a native American legend. The back is the famous Chicago stars/colors. There's the American flag, the north star representing our former status as a free state/hope for Black Americans seeking a better life and the Emerald City as legendary Wizard Of Oz series author Frank Baum lived/was inspired by Chicago! This is a maximalist take on the flag!



4225

Relationship to Illinois

My family has lived in Illinois for generations & I was born and raised in Chicago. I attended UIC & Northwestern. In addition to Chicago, I've resided in Bridgeview, and now live in Oak Park with my wife & children. My parents live in Huntley IL. As a child and adult, I've traveled through Illinois by car & train, and I have a great love of the landscape & seasons. Matthiessen State Park is a favorite trip. I visited Springfield w/ school & scouts, hiking the Lincoln Trail.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I've taken current flag elements & colors and made them more Illinois, vs. generic USA, centric: "stalks" evoking the red & white stripes, now represent our great plains and farmlands. Farms, neighborhoods, towns, industry, and cities blossom from these plains. I now have 21 stars for the 21st state. The native eagle still appropriate, now soars into the future. Years include Illinois Territory Founded, Illinois statehood, 1st to ratify 13th amendment, Worlds Fair.



4226

Relationship to Illinois

Proud resident daughter

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue bar on the left hand is the Mississippi river, the blue bar on the right represents the Great Lakes, both of which border Illinois. In the center of the flag is a plant that represents our robust corn and soy industries. The blue background represents the large blue sky visible because of our flat landscape. Submitted for Quinn Kroner



4227

Relationship to Illinois

I am a permanent resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The dark blue stripe at the bottom symbolizes Lake Michigan. The light blue strip at the top symbolizes the blue skies of Illinois. The gold star in the middle symbolizes the superiority of the state and the determination of the people.



4228

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois and attend a public school in a small town in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design is inside an ear of corn because Illinois has a lot of agriculture and grows a lot of corn. It's mostly what you see when you drive through the state. I included buildings to represent the great cities throughout Illinois, like Chicago and Springfield. I made the shape of Illinois inside the corn as part of the flag with the date it became a state and the star represents the capital of Illinois. I included the year Illinois became a state because that is important.



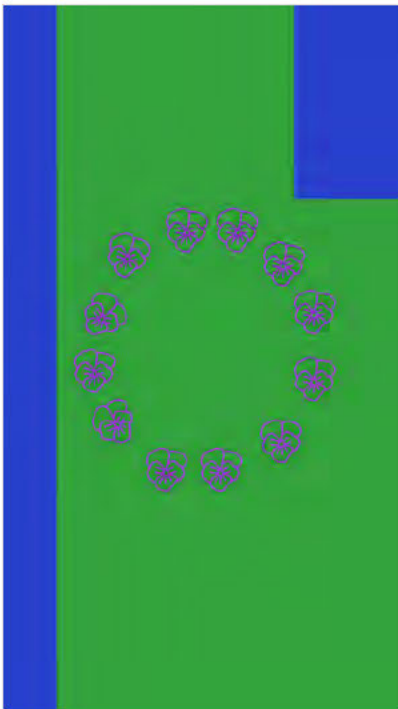
4229

Relationship to Illinois

I arrived in Illinois when I was 2 years old as a Mexican immigrant and I have called Illinois home ever since for 35 years straight.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is vertical to reflect the shape of the state. The blue stripe on the left side represents the Mississippi river and the rectangle on the right corner represents Lake Michigan. The 12 violets represent the original 12 tribes of the Illinois confederation. Violets also being the state flower.



4230

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised in the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Two horizontal off white bars to represent the bread in the Italian beef sandwich One brown bar to represent the beef Three stars (6 pointed for Chicago) to represent the giardiniera on an Italian beef sandwich



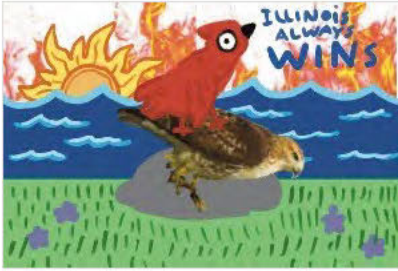
4231

Relationship to Illinois

Proud resident daughter

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag takes inspiration from the previous official state flag of an eagle on a rock. This new flag shows how Illinois has grown to be so much more than just another state. The cardinal (Illinois's state bird) is perched upon the eagle, showing how Illinois has evolved from its outdated predecessor. The purple flowers are violets, Illinois's state flower. The fire represents how Illinois's pure force of Will is capable of anything, even burning water! Submitted for Quinn Kroner



4232

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Glenview, Illinois, where every part of my life has been shaped by the spirit of this state. I went to Glenbrook South and have always felt that Illinois is the heart of the Midwest, with its rich history, diverse communities, and strong sense of resilience. From the vibrant culture of Chicago to the peaceful farmlands downstate, Illinois has instilled in me values of hard work, community, and pride that continue to guide me wherever life takes me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The black fleur-de-lis honors Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, the founder of Chicago, and recognizes the French influence in the early history of the Illinois territory. Blue represents the waters of Lake Michigan along with the Chicago and Mississippi Rivers, underscoring their vital role in the state's geography and economy. White symbolizes the Illini Confederation, representing peace, unity, and the deep cultural significance of the native peoples.



4233

Relationship to Illinois

I attended Southern Illinois University Edwardsville from 2018 to 2022 and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering. Moving from Nepal at the age of nineteen, Illinois is the first state I called home in the U.S. and it will always hold a special place in my heart.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue on the left represents the Mississippi River, Illinois' western border. Green symbolizes Illinois' natural resources and its identity as the 'Prairie State.' A white oak leaf, the state tree, positioned near the left, marks the 90th Meridian Line passing through the state. The three stars in the top right, colored yellow to represent prosperity from agriculture, symbolize Illinois' three historic capitals. With a total of 21 points, they also signify Illinois as the 21st state of the US

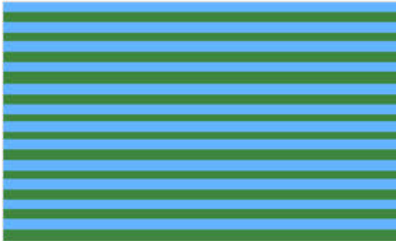
4234

Relationship to Illinois

I live in Illinois. I also grew up in Illinois. Illinois is truly my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has 12 sets of green and blue stripes. It represents the rivers and agriculture (irrigation) that have fueled Illinois. The 12 sets of stripes were chosen to represent the 12 tribes of the Illiwerkttle this land. The colors blue and green were taken from the current flag.



4235

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here. Over the span of my lifetime I never left and dont plan on leaving this state. I have been fortunate enough to make the journeys in all directions throughout Illinois and have experienced all the different lifestyles that exist here, but most importantly I feel I have a good grasp of the culture that Illinois represents.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Center logo color represents the american flag & shows connection to USA. The blue variation of land is hills/forested areas. The 3 red/white stripes are landtypes (mountain/hill, plateau, plain) & regions (The Central Plains, Driftless Plains, Till Plains). 21 stars to represent Illinois becoming the 21st state. State oak tree in center. Two white lines are farmland & prairie. The white shows agricultural/industrial spirit. The blue strip is divided into two: Lake Michigan & Mississippi River.

4236

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and attend a public school in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have drawn this flag, the buildings to the side show how Illinois has expanded and grown throughout the years. The corn that the cardinal stands on shows the other side of Illinois, the rural farming side. And the eagle shows how Illinois is in America. The outer ring is the sun, I just thought it was nice and shows character.



4237

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Chicago, Illinois, and a student at Walter Payton College Prep. I've lived here my whole life and traveled all over Illinois, visiting state parks and different cities including Springfield.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag focuses on the nature of Illinois as it is the "Prairie State." The green on the bottom half of the flag represents the prairies, however, each shade of green symbolizes a different aspect of Illinois's nature. The brighter, yellowish green on the top represents sweet corn, an iconic part of Illinois agriculture, the middle layer represents the big bluestem that covers our prairies, and the bottom represents white oak, the state tree. The rising sun references the sun in the state seal.

4238

Relationship to Illinois

Born & Raised In Illinois, This sounded Fun and I wanted to Give it a go. :)



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 4 Colors, Blue for hope & freedom also a callout to the lakes and rivers that define the shape of our state. The Red for Vitality, Growth. The White for peace. The Gold for prosperity & optimism for the future. 21 stars in total calling out to our origin as the 21st state. the 20 stars for the 20 states added before us IL being the Gold star/21st star. I chose the 6 pointed star as a Callout to Chicago while placing it over the capital in the silhouette to show Unity.

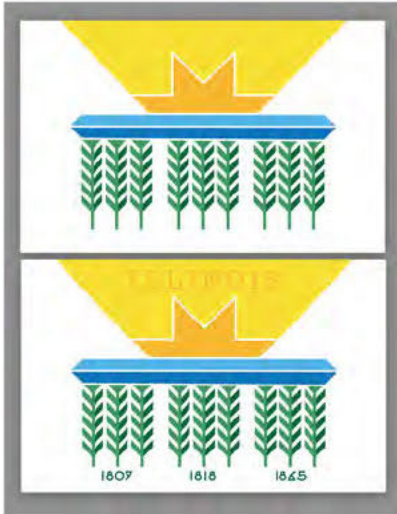
4239

Relationship to Illinois

My family has lived in Illinois for generations & I was born and raised in Chicago. I attended UIC & Northwestern. In addition to Chicago, I've resided in Bridgeview, and now live in Oak Park with my wife & children. My parents live in Huntley IL. As a child and adult, I've traveled through Illinois by car & train, and I have a great love of the landscape & seasons. Matthiessen State Park is a favorite trip. I visited Springfield w/ school & scouts, hiking the Lincoln Trail.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the current flag I've abstracted several elements and colors and made them more Illinois, vs. generic USA, centric. "stalks" evoking the red & white stripes, now represent our prairie state. Grouped into 3 sections to represent the 3 geographical divisions of Illinois. The Blue Horizontal stripes represent rivers & lakes. The geometric design is inspired by Native American, folk, and prairie style decorations. Years for Illinois Territory, Illinois Statehood & ratify 13th amendment.



4240

Relationship to Illinois

Illinois has been my home for thirty years. I was born in northern Illinois, grew up in the south suburbs and have lived my adult life in central Illinois. Illinois' namesake and many counties and towns that attribute their names to native American history has always intrigued me and therefore has inspired me to design a flag along this thread.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois, to me, is defined by the flat prairie making up large portions of the state. I wanted my flag to visualize heading west through the state during a beautiful sunset. The arrow is a tribute to Illinois, and all, native past while indicating a new day on the horizon.



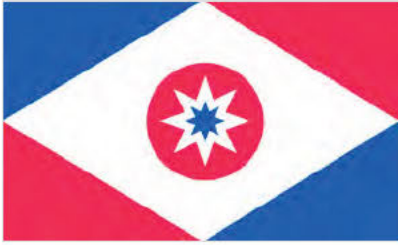
4241

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four corners of this flag represent the four distinct regions of Illinois: Northern, Central, Western, and Southern. The white diamond nods to the current flag and represents Illinois's flat prairies. The two eight-pointed stars and circle represent the native tribes that guarded the land for centuries and the current, diverse people who call Illinois home today. The eight-pointed star is not used by any major flag, it is distinctive and will make the Illinois star something unique.



4242

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Aurora, Illinois; my family moved in and out of the state during my childhood, but Illinois was always our home base. I attended Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois and moved to Elk Grove Village, Illinois after graduation. I love exploring our state's incredible nature!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

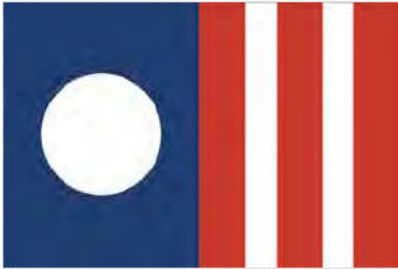
This flag symbolizes IL's status as a major transportation and trade hub: light blue sky represents IL's major airports, dark blue represents trade/travel/recreation on Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River on either side of the state, and the orange shifting stripe along the horizon represents railways and Route 66. Orange also symbolizes the monarch's journey and IL's major pumpkin production (my favorite fact). The sun rises like a beacon from the horizon, representing IL's bright future.



4243

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a passionate sophomore in high school with a deep love for art and digital creativity. I love expressing myself in various ways, and one of my favorite outlets is creating all kinds of art; and these flags are a good example of this. Having lived in Aurora my whole life, I draw inspiration from my roots*my dad is originally from Chicago, and my mom immigrated from Dublin, Ireland. I'm incredibly grateful for their unwavering support, which fuels my creativity and artistic journey.



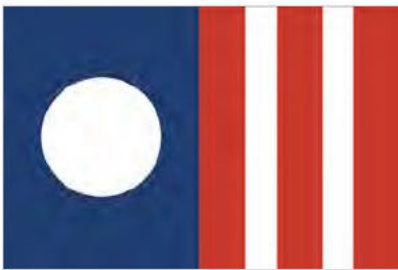
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 red stripes represent northern, central and southern. Illinois. While the red, white and blue represent. And while the flag is flipped vertically it is meant to represent the sun supporting a row crop, as agriculture is very significant to Illinois culture. The circle (sun)on the left hand side represents hope and diverse community. The white and red lines represent a sky scraper; shows that Illinois is a mix of agricultural land and city' and towns where all are welcome.

4244

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a passionate sophomore in high school with a deep love for art and digital creativity. I love expressing myself in various ways, and one of my favorite outlets is creating all kinds of art; and these flags are a good example of this. Having lived in Aurora my whole life, I draw inspiration from my roots*my dad is originally from Chicago, and my mom immigrated from Dublin, Ireland. I'm incredibly grateful for their unwavering support, which fuels my creativity and artistic journey.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The 3 red stripes represent northern, central and southern. Illinois. While the red, white and blue represent. And while the flag is flipped vertically it is meant to represent the sun supporting a row crop, as agriculture is very significant to Illinois culture. The circle (sun)on the left hand side represents hope and diverse community. The white and red lines represent a sky scraper; shows that Illinois is a mix of agricultural land and city' and towns where all are welcome.

4245

Relationship to Illinois

I am a student living in Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for my life. I have fond memories of growing up in Illinois and it is the place I know the best.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In my drawing of the state flag I included some corn fields because Illinois is known for farming and I also included some buildings for our big cities. I also included pumpkins because Morton is also the pumpkin capital of the world. I included a lot of farming equipment because when I thought of Illinois all I could think of was corn and how much there actually is now that I'm surrounded by it. When I think of Illinois I think of farming and I also think of FFA and many other things.



4246

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I moved away with my then fiance but moved back when we decided to start a family. We have lived here ever since with our two teenage boys.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue and orange colors is a well received color combination in Illinois. The I represent Illinois and makes the flag easily recognizable.



4247

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Chicago; raised in Illinois; educated in Evanston; permanent resident since 1991.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The top blue stripe (Hex 41B6E6 of Chicago's flag) represents the northern part of the State including the Chicago area and Lake Michigan as well as the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. The middle gold stripe (from current IL seal to tie it to the history) represents corn and wheat fields, and all of Illinois' tremendous agriculture. The bottom green stripe represents Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois and our natural history and nickname, The Prairie State. 1818 is the founding year.



4248



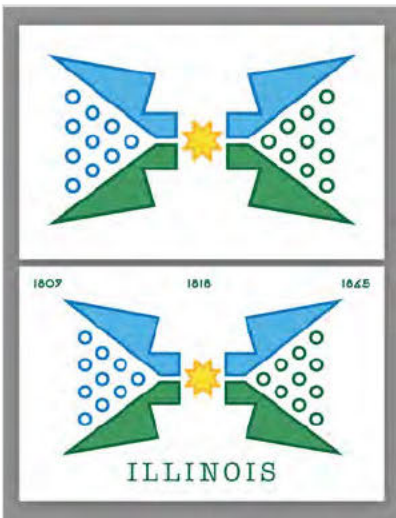
Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and have lived my whole life here, I am 15.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow represents the prairie of Illinois. The blue represents Lake Michigan on one side of the state and the Mississippi River on the other side. The violet is the state flower of Illinois.

4249



Relationship to Illinois

My family has lived in Illinois for generations & I was born and raised in Chicago. I attended UIC & Northwestern. In addition to Chicago, I've resided in Bridgeview, and now live in Oak Park with my wife & children. My parents live in Huntley IL. As a child and adult, I've traveled through Illinois by car & train, and I have a great love of the landscape & seasons. Matthiessen State Park is a favorite trip. I visited Springfield w/ school & scouts, hiking the Lincoln Trail.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Geometric shapes & circles are homage to the art of the Illinois Tribe (See deer hides in the Musee de l'Homme @ MuseumLink IL). Circles & central star represent the 20 states w/ Illinois as the 21st. Using circles vs. stars differentiates flag from many others. Green represents the fields & prairies & blue represents the rivers, lakes & sky. White space around star, defined by "arrowheads" is serif "I". Years include Illinois Territory Founded, Illinois statehood, 1st to ratify 13th amendment.

4250



Relationship to Illinois

Proud resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Homage to the original flag is the use of the sun which is set against Illinois' vast sky with grand sunsets. Below is the cow catcher represent rail transport and all of the transportation infrastructure that brings Illinois food, fuel and technology to the nation.

4251



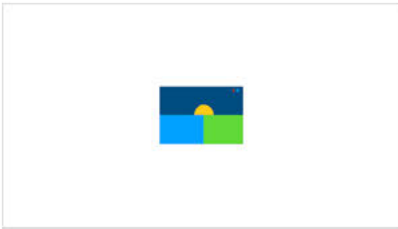
Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, met my wife, and am raising my children in this state. I love biking, our sports teams, and everything this state has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The design incorporates a red star as a nod to the Chicago star, but utilizes 12 points to honor the 12 tribes that made up the Illini. The blue represents the 3 rivers the surround and shape our state. The white symbolizes the harmony of the state. We are a huge state with agriculture, architecture, and one of the largest cities in the country. All of this harmonizes to make what we know as Illinois.

4252



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in Evanston. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I love the diversity of Illinois. I learned about Illinois in 6th Grade Integrated Global Studies class.

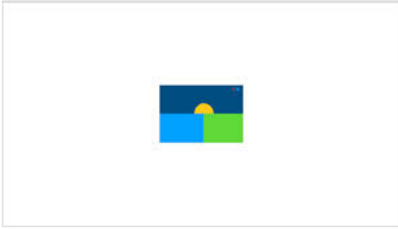
Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the sun setting on the lake and a prairie. I chose a lake because Illinois has Lake Michigan, one of the largest in the world. I chose a prairie because Illinois is the prairie state. My flag also has 2 stars. These represent the years on the current Illinois flag. 1818: The year Illinois became a state. 1868: The year the seal of Illinois was redesigned.

4253

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in Evanston. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I love the diversity of Illinois. I learned about Illinois in 6th Grade Integrated Global Studies class.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the sun setting on the lake and a prairie. I chose a lake because Illinois has Lake Michigan, one of the largest in the world. I chose a prairie because Illinois is the prairie state. My flag also has 2 stars. These represent the years on the current Illinois flag. 1818: The year Illinois became a state. 1868: The year the seal of Illinois was redesigned.

4254

Relationship to Illinois

I have friends from rural Illinois who share their experiences with farming and harvesting. Their hardworking families live in isolated areas with lower living standards compared to urban regions. Despite the significant contributions of the working class in these areas to the state's economy, they are often neglected. Therefore, I have proposed a redesign of the flag of Illinois to better reflect the state's diversity by giving more representation to rural working-class communities of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow field represents Illinois' landscape and agriculture because it's nicknamed the Prairie State, the Corn State, and the Garden of the West. The roundel's middle position in the field represents Illinois' central location in the US and its other nickname the Inland Empire State. The blue fringe around the white disk, representing the state's land, symbolizes Illinois' iconic water borders. The red star symbolizes Abraham Lincoln because Illinois is also nicknamed the Land of Lincoln.

4255

Relationship to Illinois

I grew up in Illinois and went to high school at Metea Valley High School in Aurora, and attended college at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Spending an upbringing in the outdoors, I recognize the importance and uniqueness of the land, and I have always loved the prairie as an ecosystem and foundation for the thousands of years of people who have called this land home. As a history student, I have studied the important role Illinois has held in the national story.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue vertical borders representing the bounding waters of the state in the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan/Wabash River. Blue line that crosses the flag representing the Illinois River. The yellow background represents the prairie and the green background represents the forests. The yellow, blue, and green diagonal also represents the three regions of the state. Red stars represent past and future with the central star representing the state itself and its importance to the Union.



4256

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

this is a green background for IL nature as well as the state flower.



4257

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four corners represent the four regions of Illinois: Northern, Central, Western, and Southern. The white diamond represents the prairies of the Prairie State and is an homage to the current flag. The eight-pointed stars represent the indigenous tribes of Illinois and our current diverse population. The circle represents unity. The eight-pointed star is unique, no other major flag in the US currently uses it. People will immediately recognize the "Illinois Star" as the symbol of our state.



4258



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and i visit the state often. I am currently serving in the Conservation Corps out of state, but I love illinois a lot. I still have tons of friends and family there.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This state flag takes Illinois' state mammal, the white-tailed deer, and splits it with a blue reminiscent of the Illinois river that crosses our state.

4259



Relationship to Illinois

I've lived in Chicago, Illinois for eight years, and I love being part of this incredible state. Whether it's swimming in Lake Michigan during the summer or visiting a pumpkin patch in the fall, every experience feels special. I enjoy the perfect balance between urban life and natural beauty that Illinois offers, and I'm proud to call it my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design features a wave symbolizing the state's vital waterways, from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River, reflecting Illinois' deep connection to trade, travel, and natural beauty. A golden curve represents the vast agricultural fields that sustain the region, with corn and pumpkins being prominent influences. The white sky honors Illinois' snowy winters, showcasing the resilience of its people. At the center, a six-pointed golden star unites these elements, representing every Illinoisan.

4260



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents Lake Michigan, and the green represents the sprawling plains of Illinois. The yellow is what brings everything together. Whether you live in the lake region or the great plains of Illinois, we all live under the same sun.

4261

Relationship to Illinois

I first came to Illinois as an elementary school student. My sister and I attended high school in Chicago. I earned my bachelor's degree at the Illinois Institute of Art, now my daughter is pursuing her degree at the Art Institute of Chicago. My dad lived and worked here for a few decades and I moved my mom here in her later years to be closer to me. My brother moved from another state and met his wife here. I now work in Chicago, so I've been here for several decades; it truly is home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the white oak tree as the center of my design since it's the official tree of Illinois. Like the oak, we're rooted in traditions. Midwesterners are considered the "salt of the earth" and our roots are strong. Like the oak tree the people of Illinois are resilient, steadfast, and can be relied on. Much like the oak we never waver, we're stable and known to prosper. We're made to endure the storms.



4262

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

this is the Chicago cityscape next to the farmland of IL.



4263

Relationship to Illinois

I have friends from rural Illinois who share their experiences with farming and harvesting. Their hardworking families live in isolated areas with lower living standards compared to urban regions. Despite the significant contributions of the working class in these areas to the state's economy, they are often neglected.

Therefore, I have proposed a redesign of the flag of Illinois to better reflect the state's diversity by giving more representation to rural working-class communities of Illinois.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow field represents Illinois' landscape and agriculture because it's nicknamed the Prairie State, the Corn State, and the Garden of the West. The roundel's middle position in the field represents Illinois' central location in the US and its other nickname the Inland Empire State. The blue fringe around the white disk, representing the state's land, symbolizes Illinois' iconic water borders. The red star symbolizes Abraham Lincoln because Illinois is also nicknamed the Land of Lincoln.

4264

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, met my wife, and am raising my children in this state. I love biking, our sports teams, and everything this state has to offer.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag has 3 blue bars representing the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers. The yellow represents the prairies, green for our agriculture, and the red 12 pointed star is a nod to our largest city, Chicago, and represents the 12 tribes of the Illini. The white symbolizes everything working in harmony to form our great state.



4265

Relationship to Illinois

Twenty-five years ago, my parents*like so many others*came to the US in search of the American Dream. They had 50 states to choose from and found Illinois as their new home. My parents chose to settle in Illinois not because it is the state where the American Dream continues to flourish. It is the state where they have been able to raise their children and have called home ever since.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Gold Eagle" The gold represents the prairies and farmland found in the heart of Illinois. Bounded by two streaks of blue, these represent the two bodies of water: the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. A circle of 21 blue stars represents the 21st state in the union. At the center is a six-pointed red star, representing the six main tribes that called Illinois home: the Illinois, Miami, Winnebago, Fox and Sacs (Sauk), Kickapoo, and Pottawatomie tribes. A simplified seal lies in the center.

4266

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in IL and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This is what IL is to me, the country road and the state bird.



4267

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the state of Illinois; born at Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn and raised in Orland Park. I graduated high school from Carl Sandburg High School in 2016 and am proud to call myself from the great state of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois has a proud history of being the Land of Lincoln, and being a strong contributor to the Union during the Civil War. As such, my three flags highlight those two components with the first flag have Lincoln's face in the center as we are the Land of Lincoln and home to our nation's greatest president. The second and third flags have a star representing Illinois' place in the Union. My submission is a screenshot of these three flags, two digitally designed and one sketched.



4268



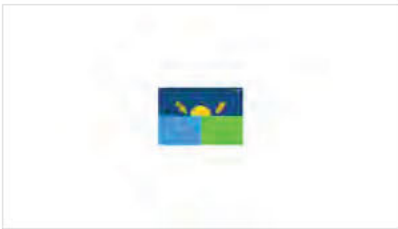
Relationship to Illinois

We have close friends who live in Hinsdale and family who own property in Galena.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag prominently displays the State flower, the violet. In the center is a white star, recalling Illinois's own star on the U.S. flag. The red, white, and blue colors behind the violet are those of the National flag and carry with them the same meanings: valor (red), purity (white), and justice (blue)--all earned by Illinois's role in U.S. history and cemented by its pivotal contribution to the preserving the Union.

4269



Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in Evanston. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I love the diversity of Illinois. I learned about Illinois in 6th Grade Integrated Global Studies class.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the sun setting on the lake and a prairie. I chose a lake because Illinois has Lake Michigan, one of the largest in the world. I chose a prairie because Illinois is the prairie state. I also included corn because corn can exist in prairies and one of Illinois' top crops is corn. My flag also has 2 stars. These represent the years on the current Illinois flag. 1818: The year Illinois became a state. 1868: The year the seal of Illinois was redesigned.

4270

Relationship to Illinois



I was born and raised in Illinois and I love the state. Most of my family and friends still live there, and I visit often. I still think of it as home. I am currently out of state serving with the Conservation Corps.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag shows the piping plovers that have lived in Montrose Beach in Chicago. There are only around 70 pairs of this bird remaining in the great lakes, so it is a treasured species. It reminds us of the natural beauty of our state, with the background representing a shoreline. It also calls us to protect our natural resources and wildlife.

4271

Relationship to Illinois



I was born and raised in Illinois, met my wife, and am raising my children in this state. I love biking, our sports teams, and everything this state has to offer.

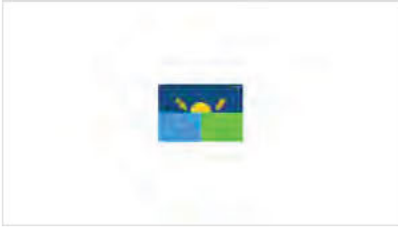
Explain the meaning behind your flag

The star represents our largest city Chicago, but is 12 pointed to reflect the 12 tribes of the Illini Nation. The green represents all the agriculture in our state. The 3 blue lines represent the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers that shape IL. The yellow represents our open prairies and the original landscape of Illinois. The white symbolizes all of the harmony between our architecture, agriculture, and cities to make IL.

4272

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois in Evanston. I have lived in Illinois for my entire life. I love the diversity of Illinois. I learned about Illinois in 6th Grade Integrated Global Studies class.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag has the sun setting on the lake and a prairie. I chose a lake because Illinois has Lake Michigan, one of the largest in the world. I chose a prairie because Illinois is the prairie state. I also included corn because corn can exist in prairies and one of Illinois' top crops is corn. My flag also has 2 stars. These represent the years on the current Illinois flag. 1818: The year Illinois became a state. 1868: The year the seal of Illinois was redesigned.

4273

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised here. Over the span of my lifetime I never left and don't plan on leaving this state. I have been fortunate enough to make the journeys in all directions throughout Illinois and have experienced all the different lifestyles that exist here, but most importantly I feel I have a good grasp of the culture that Illinois represents.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Center of logo symbol represents the American flag & shows connection to USA. The red & white stripes are landtypes (hills, plateaus, plains) & regions (The Central Plains, Driftless Plains, Tilt Plains). 21 stars represent Illinois becoming 21st state. State oak tree in center & landtype. Yellow is for corn crop. White for agricultural/industrial spirit. Blue is the overall color to symbolize water: Lake Michigan, Mississippi River, The Illinois River, Des Plaines River, Kankakee Rivers, etc.

4274

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois; born at Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn and raised in Orland Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag highlights Illinois' place as the 21st state in the Union and a proud contributor during the Civil War with the single star in the center. Additionally, the two blue stripes represent Illinois' geography being bordered by three rivers, the Mississippi, Ohio and Wabash, as well as Lake Michigan. Lastly the red reflects our place in the United States and it's values of Liberty and Freedom that have been reflected in our national flag since its inception.

4275

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Springfield.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The symbols representing the diversity and unity of the population are a train connecting the urban with the suburban. The suburban dream is represented by a blue picket fence, blue for the unity across the state. The wheat represents the natural abundance of rural areas.

4276

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Springfield.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The symbols representing the diversity and unity of the population are a train connecting the urban with the suburban. The suburban dream is represented by a blue picket fence, blue for the unity across the state. The wheat represents the natural abundance of rural areas.

4277

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and have lived my entire life in IL. My grandparents were farmers in southern IL and I currently live and teach in the Chicago suburbs. I have Native American ancestors from IL and am a Daughter of the American Revolution. I love IL and the diversity within the state! Not only within our population, but in the multiple activities and opportunities offered. I truly feel privileged to live and work in a state that has a rich history, and is focused on continued growth within the future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green center symbolizes the land/prairies, and it represents the agricultural heart of IL. The left blue panel represents the Mississippi River while the right panel represents Lake Michigan. The star in the center is made up of seven arrowheads. 7 is 1/3 of 21-IL was the 21st state to enter the union. The arrowheads acknowledge Native American history and culture within IL. Their direction symbolizes looking back on our history, while also looking forward to the future and expanding growth.



4278

Relationship to Illinois

I currently live in the state of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The diagonal light blue stripe represents the state's water bodies, such as Lake Michigan and the Illinois River. The dark blue background represents a balance between peace and power. The horizontal green stripe, located in the middle left, symbolizes the Midwest, known as the "Prairie State." The stars, arranged in a simplified outline of the state's boundary, represent diversity.



4279

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents Lake Michigan, and the green represents the sprawling plains of Illinois. The yellow is what brings everything together. Whether you live in the lake region or the great plains of Illinois, we all live under the same sun.



4280

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of the State where I attended Southern Illinois University and received an A.A.S. in Architectural Technology and a B.S. in Technical Studies.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My intention was to use all elements of our existing flag (except for the rock), and to update them in way that preserves the designer's original, historic intent. More specifically, the ribbon has been relocated to a stable position rather than it flailing in the wind. The original plant has been replaced with three indigenous stalks that represent Northern, Central, and Southern Illinois while the shield has been relocated to a central area that indicates the fortitude of our great state.



4281

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The red means success, the blue stands for the Illinois River, the green is for the prairie which the state is known for, and the stars symbolizes Chicago, its main source of income and what Illinois is most famous for. Although the stars have different meanings. First Star: the native tribe of the Illiniwek Second Star: The Emancipation Proclamation (Illinois was the first state to ratify it) Third Star: Great Chicago Fire Fourth Star: The birth of the atomic age



4282

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and have lived here my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents Lake Michigan, and the green represents the sprawling plains of Illinois. The yellow is what brings everything together. Whether you live in the lake region or the great plains of Illinois, we all live under the same sun.



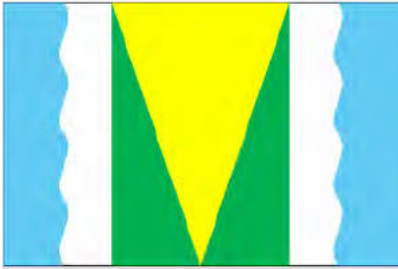
4283

Relationship to Illinois

We have close friends who live in Hinsdale and family who own property in Galena.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The center of the flag features geometric green and yellow designs, reminiscent of stylized corn--a recognition of the importance of agriculture to the State and its contribution to the Nation. Light blue wavy geometric shapes border the flag, symbolizing the two great bodies of water that give life to the State, its people, and its industry--the Mississippi on the left border and Lake Michigan on the right. The remaining white is a nod to the current flag's white background.



4284

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, born at Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn and raised in Orland Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag displays our pride in being home to our nations greatest president, Abraham Lincoln, by displaying his face in the center. Lincoln guided our country through the Civil War and proudly progressed our country past the horrors of slavery, and he should be duly honored on our state flag. The stars signify Illinois' place as the 21st state in the union and the blue represents our geographic boundaries, several of which are waterways; the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers along with Lake MI



4285

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and have lived my entire life in IL. My grandparents were farmers in southern IL and I currently live and teach in the Chicago suburbs. I have Native American ancestors from IL and am a Daughter of the American Revolution. I love IL and the diversity within the state! Not only within our population, but in the multiple activities and opportunities offered. I truly feel privileged to live and work in a state that has a rich history, and is focused on continued growth within the future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green center symbolizes the land/prairies, and it represents the agricultural heart of IL. The two blue panels represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The star in the center is made up of seven arrowheads. 7 is 1/3 of 21-IL was the 21st state to enter the union. The arrowheads acknowledge Native American history and culture within IL. Their direction symbolizes looking back on our history, while also looking forward to the future and expanding growth.



4286

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in the state for most of my life. I have been studying at university out-of-state but still return home every opportunity I get.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Echo on the Breeze": This design incorporates the geography of Illinois, with blue representing Lake Michigan and the state's prominent rivers. The 21-pointed star is a nod to Illinois' status as the 21st state. Red represents Illinois' agriculture and rich soil. White represents Illinois' snowfall and industry, as well as the state's role in the civil rights movement. The red-white-blue color scheme is synonymous with America, while the tones evoke a soft wind blowing over the heartland.



4287

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in the state for most of my life. I have been studying at university out-of-state but still return home every opportunity I get.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Country Calling": The blue represents Illinois' waterways, including Lake Michigan, and the two stripes represent the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The 21-pointed star serves as a proud reminder of Illinois' entry into the Union as the 21st state. Red represents Illinois' agriculture and the state's role in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. White represents Illinois' snowfall, industry, and role in the civil rights movement. The red-white-blue color scheme is a nod to the American flag.



4288

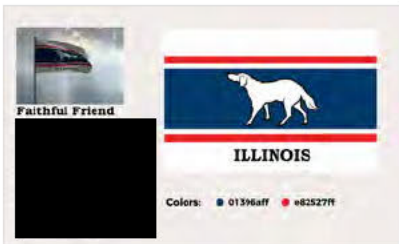
Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in the state for most of my life. I have been studying at university out-of-state but still return home every opportunity I get.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

"Verdant Growing": The blue represents Illinois' waterways, including Lake Michigan, and the two stripes represent the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers that fuel the state. The 21-pointed star serves as a proud reminder of Illinois' entry into the Union as the 21st state. Green represents Illinois' forests, rich farmland, and growth, while yellow represents its agriculture and the sun nurturing the Prairie State.





4291

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a passionate sophomore in high school with a deep love for art and digital creativity. I enjoy expressing myself through various artistic mediums, and creating flags is a great example of this. Having lived in Aurora my entire life, I draw inspiration from my roots*my dad (musical artist + painter) is originally from Chicago, and my mom (digital marketer) immigrated from Dublin, Ireland. I'm incredibly grateful for their unwavering support, which fuels my creativity and artistic journey.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag is a representation of Illinois continue expansion and modernization as one of the best states in America. The star represents transportation, labor, commerce, finance, diverseness, and health . There is a big I and L representing the initials of Illinois. The red represents love and compassion for one another, blue represents strength of our state, and the beige represents wealth and expansion of our community.

4292

Relationship to Illinois

Proud resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

A windmill set against the immense Illinois sky represents the state's innovation and far seeing embracing of new technology.



4293

Relationship to Illinois

Resident since birth!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

(Full description on image!) I want to pay tribute to Lincoln's little Fido.



4294



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I moved away with my then fiancé but moved back when we decided to start a family. We have lived here ever since with our two teenage boys.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

. The I represent Illinois and makes the flag easily recognizable.

4295



Relationship to Illinois

Resident since birth!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

(Full description on image!)

4296



Relationship to Illinois

Home town

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I wanted to do something different and the other flags was not to my liking.

4297

Relationship to Illinois

Was born in Chicago. Have been every which way in the state and have found enjoyment in all directions. Still live here and don't plan on leaving.

Explain the meaning behind your flag



The modernized large white shape on the left side represents the shape of Illinois.

There are three white stripes integrated into the state to represent the overall flat land type of hills, prairie, and farmland and two blue stripes integrated into the state to represent Lake Michigan and The Mississippi River. There are 21 stars to represent Illinois becoming the 21st state to join the Union. The red star is positioned and showcased from the rest to represent the capitol, Springfield.

4298

Relationship to Illinois

We have close friends who live in Hinsdale and family who own property in Galena.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag combines history and industry. At the left is half of the Cahokia sun disk (a circle with a cross), recognizing the land of Illinois's importance in history, even before statehood. It is yellow like the current flag's sun. Half of the sun disk is off the flag, anchored in the past. The blue waters of the Mississippi flow from the Cahokia sun disk, dividing the fields of green below (the agricultural base of Illinois feeding the nation) and the white above (industry and progress).



4299

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Aurora, IL & grew up in Yorkville, IL, attending Yorkville High School (Class of 2014). I played travel baseball & hockey across the state, winning a State Championship with the Naperville Sabres in 2012. I later graduated from Dominican University (Class of 2018) in River Forest, IL. I've worked for several sports organizations in Illinois, including in Joliet & Bridgeview. I now live in Ukrainian Village, Chicago working at the United Center for the Blackhawks.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My design draws inspiration from the current Illinois flag, simplifying & modernizing its elements while preserving the symbolic integrity of the state seal. The sunrise represents optimism & progress, symbolizing a bright future. The blue section reflects Illinois' rich network of rivers & lakes, vital to its history & economy. The green section represents the state's natural landscapes & fertile farmland, key to its agricultural heritage. This flag embodies Illinois' uniqueness and core values



4300



Relationship to Illinois

Illinois resident of 20 years. I have lived here for all 20 years of my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue curved bicolor represents Lake Michigan. The orange, is one often associated with the state, from its premiere public university to its only NFL team. Gold, represents the sun, and the state's status as the prairie state. The center, large star, to represent the city of Chicago, and the other 20 make 21, as Illinois was the 21st state to join the Union.

4301



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Orland Park, Illinois, and have called it home for most of my formative years. I am a proud Redbird, a graduate of Illinois State University, the state's first public university. After graduation, I moved to Florida for work, but I have since begun the process of moving back with my fianc*e, a native Floridian, to build a new home and start a family here. Illinois is my past, Illinois is my present, and with all hope, Illinois will be my future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The "State Shield," inspired by the shield the eagle grasps on Illinois' current flag, symbolizes strength, defense, and protecting our shared heritage. In redesigning the flag, I wanted to honor that shield. The flag includes a thin gold border and five stars representing key moments in IL history: Statehood (1818), Lincoln's leadership (1860s), the Chicago Fire (1871), the Haymarket Affair (1886), and the World's Columbian Exposition (1893). This flag represents both history and our future.

4302

Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong citizen

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four corners represent the four regions of Illinois: Northern, Central, Western, and Southern. The eight-pointed stars represent the indigenous tribes of Illinois and our current diverse population. The circle and strips represent the centrality of our state within the US and how we connect different states through our actions. The eight-pointed star is unique, no other major flag in the US currently uses it. People will immediately recognize the "Illinois Star" as the symbol of our state.



4303

Relationship to Illinois

Proud resident daughter

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents a well clothed free-spirited cat set against an Illinois sunset.



4304

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and have lived my entire life in IL. My grandparents were farmers in southern IL and I currently live and teach in the Chicago suburbs. I have Native American ancestors from IL and am a Daughter of the American Revolution. I love IL and the diversity within the state! Not only within our population, but in the multiple activities and opportunities offered. I truly feel privileged to live and work in a state that has a rich history, and is focused on continued growth within the future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The green center symbolizes the land/prairies, and represents the agricultural heart of IL. The two blue panels represent the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. The white line is the Chicago skyline. The star in the center is made up of seven arrowheads. 7 is 1/3 of 21-IL was the 21st state to enter the union. They acknowledge Native American history and culture within IL. Their direction symbolizes looking back on our history, while also looking forward to the future and expanding growth.



4305

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised as a proud Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my son, Carters' designs was to simplify the current flag while tying it to better represent the state. The red star represents Illinois largest city and tourist destination, Chicago. The eagle is simplified from the current flag to a more modern geometric shape illustrating the forward progress of Illinois. The blue horizontal stripe is a nod to the Illinois River that stretches across the state. The yellow-green horizontal stripe represents the Illinois rich farmland.



4306

Relationship to Illinois

As a summary of this section from my last two submissions, I grew up in Illinois. Truthfully, I see Illinois as an amalgamation of culture, people, and ideas. Illinois is a safe haven for its inhabitants when compared to other states. I see Illinois for its people's versatility and strength, which reminds me of the monarch butterfly. We are able to push through even the worst of obstacles and keep going throughout the year and its seasons.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

In the last section, I mentioned that the people of Illinois are capable of anything. The monarch butterfly the state insect, is similares as strong and versatile as its species are capable of going through life despite the challenges that all four seasons bring. With the light blue representing winter, the dark blue representing summer, the red representing the fall, and the green representing spring.



4307

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a lifelong resident of Illinois since I was born here 28 years ago. I attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and I live in Chicago and work as an art director at a major advertising agency. I care deeply about the history of our state, and, as an independent film director, wish for nothing more than to put Illinois on the world stage. Since I was a child, I always loved, collected and displayed flags. It would be a great honor to have designed my state's flag.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag depicts the state of Illinois; at its center, the golden fields, and at the top and bottom the blue of our two great rivers - the Mississippi and the Illinois - connecting the Great Lakes and the Gulf of Mexico, through one of the most ambitious engineering projects of the modern era. Our state's official tree, the White Oak, represents the strength of the people of Illinois, and is surrounded by a circle of 21 stars, to commemorate our state's integration as the 21st state.

4308

Relationship to Illinois

The students who worked on this flag are high school students living in Illinois named Andrew and William.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag includes 21 stars to represent Illinois being the 21st state of the Union, and a silhouette of the state to easily identify the flag. Blue and orange were chosen as they are the colors of the University of Illinois



4309

Relationship to Illinois

Proud resident daughter

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents Gelbo the mascot for all the free spirited individuals of this state.



4310



Relationship to Illinois

The students who worked on this flag are high school students living in Illinois named Peyton and Lydia.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag features corn as it is both the state grain and sweet corn is the state vegetable, 21 stars for Illinois being the 21st state (the large star represents Illinois), all on a field of violet for the state flower.

4311



Relationship to Illinois

Having lived on the very edge of Chicago's suburbs for as long as I've been alive, I am particularly fascinated with the duality of Illinois. If I fall over in one direction, I'm surrounded by endless corn and soybean fields; if I fall over the other way, I'm in the second largest city in the state and only a hop, skip, and a jump away from the "Second City." It's hard to imagine myself anywhere else. I can't wait for Illinois to select a new flag that I can use to represent my great state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Water defines Illinois, and it defines this flag proposal. The rivers and Great Lake constituting our borders are represented by the two blue portions of this flag. The historic and recognizable urban areas of Illinois are represented by the gray bar due to the gray steel used in making skyscrapers. Green and yellow represent our prairies*with wide areas preserved*and agriculture*especially our corn and soy. The orange stripe represents Illinois' enormous pumpkin production!

4312

Relationship to Illinois

I'm currently a graduate student at the University of Illinois Chicago. My mom grew up in Kankakee, and I have family in Peoria. I was raised in Salt Lake City, Utah, but I've lived in Chicago since May 2019.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The four stripes represent the four seasons and natural elements of Illinois. The blue stripe, spring, symbolizes our rivers, lakes, and waterways. The green stripe, summer, represents our verdant lands, prairies, and forests. The gold stripe, autumn, signifies our healthy crops and abundant harvests. The white stripe, winter, portrays our expansive sky, snow, and sunlight.



4313

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised a proud Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my son, Carters' designs was to simplify the current flag while tying it to better represent the state. The red star represents Illinois largest city and tourist destination, Chicago. The eagle is simplified from the current flag to a more modern geometric shape illustrating the forward progress of Illinois. The blue background represents the many historic rivers and lakes throughout the state.



4314

Relationship to Illinois

Born and raised a proud Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The meaning behind my son, Carters' designs was to simplify the current flag while tying it to better represent the state. The red star represents Illinois largest city and tourist destination, Chicago. The eagle is simplified from the current flag to a more modern geometric shape illustrating the forward progress of Illinois.



4315



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I grew up in rural southern Illinois, went to college in Chicago and lived in the suburbs and now I teach social studies in my hometown.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag has 21 stars to symbolize Illinois being the 21st state. The star in the middle represents Illinois and is on a violet (the state flower) with 8 petals (IL is the 8th state after the original 13 colonies). The gold represent the corn and grain grown by farmers and the violet is further homage to the state flower

4316



Relationship to Illinois

Was born in Chicago. Have been every which way in the state and have found enjoyment in all directions. Still live here and don't plan on leaving.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The eagle logo symbolizes our strength. The eagle is holding a shield with the scenery of the sunrise over Lake Michigan to symbolize longevity of the land and the sun rays to symbolize hope. Under the eagle is a blue banner to read out the state motto "State Sovereignty, National Unity". There are 21 stars for Illinois being 21st state. Yellow is for corn. Two white horizontal stripes for prairie and farmland. Blue stripe divided in two for Lake Michigan and The Mississippi River.

4317

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Chicago! I've lived in Illinois all my life. I love Illinois. I'm proud of our state. We such rich/diverse history from our native American ancestry and French explorers to our melting pot of ethnicity! Illinois is named from a melange of the IL Indians (meaning best people) to the French translation combining ois on the end (meaning these) and the silent s on the end! I think it fits us perfectly! Great weather (usually). Industry & beautiful state parks/ivers, agriculture/recreation...



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The center is a shield, patriotic, RWB representing our state being 1 of the stars on our USA National flag. The violets are our state flower. The wind turbines are everywhere generating our own power. The farmer is IL'S rich agriculture. The tractor is John Deere for ag/manufacturing. The beautiful Cardinal our state bird. Come see what IL is all about! Land of Lincoln!

4318

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois and have been all over from south to north east to west.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white field of the flag calls back to the original Illinois flag. The diagonal stripes going across the flag allude to the American flag. The star in the center represents the united Illinois state under one flag with its diverse background. The blue in the flag represents our expansive waterways and our westmost river, the Mississippi. The red represents the historical struggles that our state and the people who have lived here have gone through from the pre-European era to today.



4319



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois. I grew up in rural southern Illinois, went to college in Chicago and lived in the suburbs and now I teach social studies in my hometown.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag features an 8 pointed star (IL was the 8th state after the original 13 colonies) stylized to look like corn (state grain and vegetable). Blue was chosen to represent the many rivers and waterways of IL and the golden triangles represent the grain fields. The triangles are arranged to make the blue field into a minimal shape of the State of Illinois

4320

Relationship to Illinois

[REDACTED]

Explain the meaning behind your flag

[REDACTED]

4321

Relationship to Illinois

The students who worked on this flag are high school students living in Illinois named Johnna and Spresalynn.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The state butterfly, the Monarch, is the focal point of this flag that includes 21 stars for Illinois being the 21st state (the large star represents Illinois). The orange represents success, determination, and creativity while the blue stands for trust, loyalty, and sincerity and strength.



4322

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have submitted flag designs for the Illinois flag design contest.



4323

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois for the past 8+ years, I went to school in Illinois and I plan on going to college in an Illinois. Illinois has been home for me as long as I can remember, and it is also home to everything I value.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose blue and red, as the unite Illinois to the national union, and simultaneously represent Illinois, through Illinois's national prairie grass, the bluestem grass's the north cardinal the state bird which is a striking red, and then I included 21 stars to signify Illinois place as the 21st state to join the union. And I included the state motto, state sovereignty, national unity.



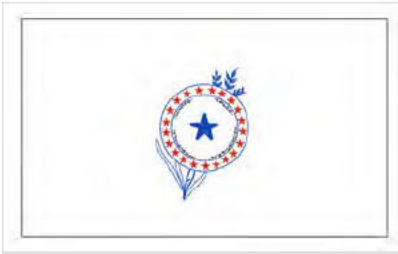
4324

Relationship to Illinois

I have been a resident of Illinois for the past 8+ years, I went to school in Illinois and I plan on going to college in an Illinois. Illinois has been home for me as long as I can remember, and it is also home to everything I value.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

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4325

Relationship to Illinois

The students who worked on this flag are high school students living in Illinois named Macey and Lynnlee.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag includes 13 stars to represent the original 13 colonies and the fact that Illinois was the first to ratify the 13th amendment. The green and white stripes represent the cornfields and prairies of the state, and there are 21 because Illinois is the 21st state. Green represents nature and hope, white represents purity, and blue represents wisdom.



4326

Relationship to Illinois

When my family immigrated to the United States, Illinois opened itself and welcomed them with open arms. I want to help make it even better because I am thankful for all the opportunities this state has given me and my family. I am very proud to be a lifelong citizen of this great state, and of all the great things Illinoisans have accomplished, not just in American history, but world history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The Starry Field flag features 21 stars symbolizing Illinois being the 21st state to join the Union. The design is inspired by the layout of the United States flag after the admittance of Illinois. This symbolizes loyalty to the Union and to its ideals. The white border wrapping around the flag represents unity of all the different peoples of our state. The blue represents the state's beauty and wealth.

4327

Relationship to Illinois

I live and work in Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue stripe represents the various waterways stretching from the Mississippi to L. Michigan--in particular, the IL River--that tie the state together and water its fertile fields and expansive prairies, represented in turn by the yellow stripe. The sun rises over L. Michigan and sets over the Mississippi R. each day and sits behind the fields and prairies. The centered star represents Chicago, a landmark of Illinois; the star's and river's colors correspond to the colors on Chicago's flag.



4328

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Chicago and eventually my family moved out into the suburbs of the city. I've lived my whole life in the state and from it I have come to appreciate the array of experiences the state provides. From city life in Chicago, to small town charm in the suburbs, and the grandeur of the Capital in Springfield.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow represents the prairies and farmland of Illinois. The four blue stripes are the four bodies of water key to the state's growth, the Mississippi, Ohio, and Illinois Rivers, and Lake Michigan. They also point inward to represent how rivers, and later railroads, brought people to the transportation hub that Illinois became. The 6 pointed star represents 6 events: Founding of the State, first factory (and later industry of 1920s), Lincoln/Civil War, 2 world Fairs, Quantum Tech/Innovation.

4329

Relationship to Illinois

The students who worked on this flag are high school students living in Illinois named Macie and Grant.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The white at the top of the flag represents the cold and snowy northern part of Illinois. The green part of the flag represents the southern part of Illinois, the Prairie State. The 21 stars for Illinois being the 21st state.



4330

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois, and am a proud citizen. I've lived here most of my life, as my dad is stationed at the naval base. I'm grateful to call such a beautiful state my home, and would be honored to design a flag to represent Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The chambray blue background represents Lake Michigan and the blue skyline of the breathtaking city of Chicago, a place where I've made countless cherished memories. The lake on the flag, illustrates the peacefulness and friendliness of Illinois, but the waves show how we are ever changing and growing, never stagnant. The stars rising from the water, depicts our strength and resilience, to rise, that while our state is alluring, we are powerful/ everlasting like the stars above.



4331

Relationship to Illinois

The students who worked on this flag are high school students living in Illinois named Blake and Boston.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag includes blue for morning sky and the beautiful scenery of Illinois and yellow representing the corn fields because Illinois is one of the biggest corn growing states. The sun rising in the top left represents a symbol of progress in Illinois and freedom.



4332

Relationship to Illinois

The students who worked on this flag are high school students living in Illinois named Peyton, Aaron, and Mason.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag includes 21 stars for Illinois being the 21st state to join the union. It uses Red, White, and Blue, the colors of the Flag of the United States. The blue line represents the many rivers and waterways of Illinois.



4333

Relationship to Illinois

I am a life long resident and I have been all over the state south to north, east to west.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue field of the flag represents the historical importance Illinois has had for the United States along with our deep connection with blue-collar workers. The stars represent the 7 states after the 13 colonies and the star in the middle represents Illinois as the 21st state. The white curve in the middle represents the Illinoisian desire to always move to the future and have big progressive ideas for its people.



4334

Relationship to Illinois

I am a lifelong resident of Illinois. I was born in a Chicago hospital, and grew up in a small town on the border of the city. I attended the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and have made a permanent home in the Humboldt Park neighborhood of Chicago. For as far back as my family can trace back our roots, we've called the state of Illinois home, and I couldn't be more proud to design the states next flag.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue: signifies the waterways: Lake Michigan in the middle and the 2 outer bands represent our many rivers. Green: natural prairies and forests. Orange/Gold: Agriculture and atop it, the prosperity our state creates for its residents and the nation as a whole. Two white bands form the railroads that connect Illinois to every state in the nation. 21 total star points for the 21st state. 3 stars for the three historical state capitals/3 regions of Illinois. 6 point star for Chicago



4335



Relationship to Illinois

The students who worked on this flag are high school students living in Illinois named Luca and Corbyn.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag used orange and blue to represent the corn fields and prairies under a blue sky. They were also chosen because they represent the colors of some of the state's sports teams.

4336



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Peoria, IL, and live in Peoria now as well. I am completely Illinois born and bred. I am also a graduate of the University of Illinois Champaign Urbana.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is a simplified version of the outline of Illinois (similar to Minnesota's new flag). The blue line represents the rivers (and lakes) of our amazing state that have provided such rich nature and are so important to commerce in the state. The yellow represents agriculture (corn especially) as it is a major industry downstate and a part of the landscape. The green represents the natural places, prairies and forests. And the red stars represent Chicago our biggest and greatest city.

4337



Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. It is my home and I would die on the cross for her.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

When I think of my home state, I think of the great City of Waukegan (home of some important folks like Ray Bradbury and Jack Benny), a fish (Lake Michigan), and our lord and savior Secretary Alexi Giannoulas (President Obama's famed "basketball buddy"). I decided to include these three things in my design for the new Illinois flag

4338

Relationship to Illinois

Living 18 years in Chicago, I am an architect and urban planner focusing on harmonizing human settlements with their cultural and environmental contexts. Growing up in Iowa with a native Illinoisan father, I experienced the state's rich dynamics, from small towns to Chicago's vibrancy. Now in Lincoln Park with my wife and two boys, I aim to capture Illinois's diversity*prairies, rivers, and urban centers*in my flag proposal, showcasing our collective harmony and future.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag embodies Illinois's legacy as a unified state. It reflects The Prairie State's harmony with nature, honoring our heritage and diverse people. Flat prairies and farms form the foundation, transitioning to a rising sun symbolizing urban vitality. Elements converge at the center, with blue shapes representing the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. Twelve sunrays honor the Illiniwek tribes, modeled after the state's Bluestem grass, with petals symbolizing the 102 counties of our great state.

4339

Relationship to Illinois

A Milwaukee native, I moved to Chicago from Winona, Minnesota following undergraduate school in 2016. I immediately fell in love and read everything I could about Chicago history. But I quickly learned that Chicago was only one half of a whole, she exists symbiotically with her hinterland. When I first moved here, I thought of myself as a Chicagoan, I now know that I am an Illinoisan.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue represents our natural waterways. Gold represents our plains and crops. Together, they appear as the sky over our rural prairies and farmlands. The railroad running to the horizon represents all our great industrious connections*our canals, railroads, and airports. The railroad points to the red star, which represents Illinois' cities. The Flag embodies the spirit of Illinoisans by illustrating how we brought ourselves together because of our differences.



4340

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I am submitting a design for the Illinois flag contest.



4341

Relationship to Illinois

Resident of naperville

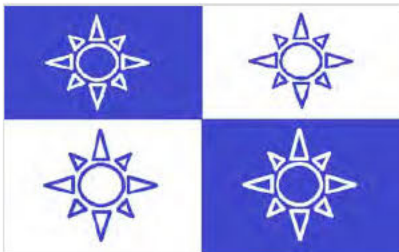
Explain the meaning behind your flag

Heart of Illinois. Beauty and grit.

4342

Relationship to Illinois

I was lucky enough to be born in Illinois, I was raised and educated here, and this is where I'll start a family. I have visited and lived in every corner, every section, of this great state. As a proud Illinoisan, I have spent 20 years designing a new flag and seal that we may all be proud of. Our state is beautiful, with a rich history spanning a millennium, and the Land of Lincoln can hold its head high knowing it stands up for what's right.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Modeled after the regimental flags of New France, the first flags to fly over Illinois. White for peace and prosperity and blue for the waterways that made Illinois a key hub. The sun/compass rose represents our bright presence; our position as a North American hub; the two major expeditions to map North America significantly feature Illinois in their routes; and ancient Cahokia, the first great polity in Illinois. The blue quarter in the upper hoist also reflects the blue canton in Old Glory.

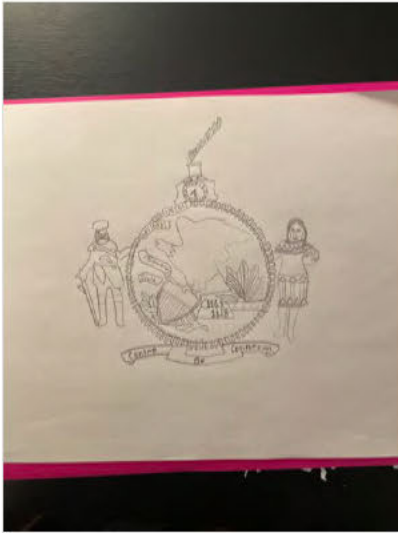
4343

Relationship to Illinois

I am an Illinois resident living here my entire life. I love learning about our state and its history which should be honored and taught.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

First the flag honors the original state seal with 2 important people. Louis Joliet on the left known to find the state and a Shawnee Woman with a basket of corn. On the bottom, Written in French, "Centre de Connexion" meaning center of connection as illinois links the country by railroad which continues around the dead with later track. On top is a clock set at 8:30. the time Chicago set on fire and lastly on top a steam engine exhaust to honor the train.



4344

Relationship to Illinois

Living 18 years in Chicago, I am an architect and urban planner focusing on harmonizing human settlements with their cultural and environmental contexts. Growing up in Iowa with a native Illinoisan father, I experienced the state's rich dynamics, from small towns to Chicago's vibrancy. Now in Lincoln Park with my wife and two boys, I aim to capture Illinois's diversity*prairies, rivers, and urban centers*in my flag proposal, showcasing our collective harmony and future.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag embodies Illinois's legacy as a unified state. It reflects The Prairie State's harmony with nature, honoring our heritage and diverse people. Flat prairies and farms form the foundation, transitioning to a rising sun symbolizing urban vitality. Elements converge at the center, with blue shapes representing the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. Twelve sunrays honor the Illiniwek tribes, modeled after the state's Bluestem grass, with petals symbolizing the 102 counties of our great state.



4345

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois. I'm a proud resident, who's lived here most of my life, as my dad serves at the naval station. I'm incredibly grateful to live in a state such as a Illinois, I'd be honored to design a flag for the place that I call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background depicts Lake Michigan. The circle at the center is the moon, and the shapes bordering it are stars. The moon and stars illustrates unity. Illinois is the moon, and we are it's stars. This celestial motif shows how the people of Illinois are part of what makes the state a wonderful place to be. And that together moon and stars we are infinite.



4346

Relationship to Illinois

Life-long resident of Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Much like the broader USA, Illinois has many different parts; when we work together, we are the best representation of Illinois. The darts of color in the lower portion represent our connectivity through waterways, highways, and rail. 21 stars here relate to Illinois' entry as the 21st state, but are also used as lights in the urban skyline, crops in the farmland, and, of course, stars in our open skies... again, connected. Within the city skyline, there is inspiration from the state seal.



4347

Relationship to Illinois

Living 18 years in Chicago, I am an architect and urban planner focusing on harmonizing human settlements with their cultural and environmental contexts. Growing up in Iowa with a native Illinoisan father, I experienced the state's rich dynamics, from small towns to Chicago's vibrancy. Now in Lincoln Park with my wife and two boys, I aim to capture Illinois's diversity*prairies, rivers, and urban centers*in my flag proposal, showcasing our collective harmony and future.



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4348

Relationship to Illinois

We moved to Illinois in 2004 just prior to the birth of our first of two children. We have put down roots here and our memories of family, friends and community continue to build through the years. Education is very important to us. I was recently elected to serve on our local School Board; I consider it an honor to serve in our community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag 1: Red stars = Chicago Flag, with cross arrows representing First Nation lands upon which we live. Black arrows signifying strength and point up = vigilance. On the right side bars of green and gold symbolize our agricultural bounty. Seven bars represent Soy (1st), Corn (2nd), Pumpkin (1st), Horseradish (1st), Wheat, Swine, and Cattle. The white field symbolizes integrity. Together, the arrows and stars remind of a railroad crossing - of which Chicago boasts the largest rail hub in USA.



4349

Relationship to Illinois

Long time resident.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Gay rat wedding.

4350



Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois. I'm a proud resident, who's lived here most of my life, as my dad serves at the naval station. I'm incredibly grateful to live in a state such as a Illinois, I'd be honored to design a flag for the place that I call home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue background depicts Lake Michigan. The lines intersecting illustrates the unity and coming together of Illinois residents to create such a beautiful state.

4351



Relationship to Illinois

I have been born and brought up in Illinois and remain a resident to this day. My connection to Illinois runs deep, having been shaped by its rich history, vibrant community, and diverse culture.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design encapsulates Illinois amidst modernization, while preserving its traditional values. The Chicago skyline symbolizes urbanization, while the blue represents agricultural values and vital rivers (that promote farming). The 21 stars denote Illinois as the 21st state and its progress since then.

4352

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Buffalo Grove, Illinois and have been for my entire life. In 2020 I attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to study history. I love to learn about our state by traveling to different Illinois cities, visiting local museums, attending public library lectures, reading, and connecting with other Illinois enthusiasts online. I also enjoy collecting Illinois-related knick knacks. Anyone who knows me can attest that I love my state with a passion.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag divided in 3 parts for 3 regions of Illinois: North Central, South. Blue represents rivers/lakes that define state borders and were historically valuable. White represents old state flag and our history under it. Green represents prairies and agriculture. 4 red stars represent state motto "State sovereignty, national union". Also relates to flags of Springfield and Chicago. The points on stars number 20 for the states that came before Illinois. Top hat represents Abe Lincoln.

4353

Relationship to Illinois

I have been born and brought up in Illinois and remain a resident to this day. My connection to Illinois runs deep, having been shaped by its rich history, vibrant community, and diverse culture.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

My flag design reflects Illinois's values in a simple yet meaningful way. The blue signifies the numerous rivers in Illinois, while the yellow represents agriculture and the abundant wheat, integral to our culture. The 21 stars denote Illinois as the 21st state, with the largest star symbolizing our unity in the USA and how every state is part of a greater culture.

4354



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and have lived here almost all my life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design is inspired by the first verse of the state song, "Illinois." The blue bars represent the "rivers gently flowing"--specifically the Wabash and Ohio Rivers to our east, and the Mississippi River to our west. The green represents the "prairies verdant growing," and pays homage to our state nickname: The Prairie State. The sun on the right side of the flag is meant to symbolize progress and prosperity, which is then reflected in our great state.

4355



Relationship to Illinois

Living 18 years in Chicago, I am an architect and urban planner focusing on harmonizing human settlements with their cultural and environmental contexts. Growing up in Iowa with a native Illinoisan father, I experienced the state's rich dynamics, from small towns to Chicago's vibrancy. Now in Lincoln Park with my wife and two boys, I aim to capture Illinois's diversity*prairies, rivers, and urban centers*in my flag proposal, showcasing our collective harmony and future.

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4356

Relationship to Illinois

I am a Illinois resident since 2006. I love the diversity here. I enjoy the different weathers and natural resources

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used three colors in my flag. Blue represent the Lake Michigan. Yellow represents the corn crop. Green is to represent the prairies. My flag also depicts the state bird Northern Cardinal. One star in my flag is for year 1818, the year Illinois became 21st state of the Union. The other star is for year 1868, the first use of the state seal of Illinois.



4357

Relationship to Illinois

Resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

For the flag contest



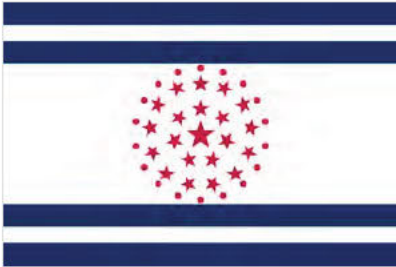
4358

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the northern suburbs of Chicago and have lived my entire life in the state. I attended and received my Bachelor's Degree from Northeastern Illinois University as my parents. I love the state of Illinois's natural beauty and history. I enjoy going to many of the state parks like Starved Rock and White Pines and traveling to Springfield to see the numerous historical sites like the Old State Capital and the home of Lincoln as well as Grant's home in Galena.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

4 blue stripes represent the water bordering Illinois: Lake Michigan and Mississippi, Ohio and Wabash Rivers. The 18 circles represent Illinois' statehood in 1818. 21 stars represent it as the 21st state. The first ring of stars represents the 13 colonies (birth of the U.S.) Ring of 7 stars represents the groups that occupied the land: Native American tribes, Mississippian culture, Illinois Confederation, French, British, Canada and U.S. The large star is Illinois. White background is for unity.



4359

Relationship to Illinois

Live in Illinois. Family has been in state since 1994

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is inspired by the Centennial flag of 1918. The flag has 21 stars to signify Illinois statehood as the 21st state. The flag is a triangle shape similar to the steel plow invented in Illinois by John Deere. The shape is unique and will make it stand out among all other state flags. It will always be distinct



4360

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois since 2006. It is my home now, Both my kids were born in Evanston, IL. I love the public school system and fortunate to have these resources. I enjoy going to the beach at Lake Michigan and love the sand dunes and various campgrounds.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I used three colors in my flag. Blue represent the Lake Michigan. Yellow represents the corn crop. Red is to represent the state bird, Northern Cardinal which my flag depicts. One star in my flag is for year 1818, the year Illinois became 21st state of the Union. The other star is for year 1868, the first use of the state seal of Illinois.



4361

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois my entire life, I was born here, raised here, and I am studying to become an educator in Illinois. Everything I am is because I was raised in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I placed five violet petals because the state flower is a violet. The background is two shades of sky blue, because when the flag is hoisted in the air, the blue will disappear, leaving behind the illusion of five petals billowing in the wind. The petals might drift down and spiral, but the last petal flows up, symbolizing the resilience of Illinoisians; despite the turbulence we endure, we always rise and soar. No other state has purple on its flag, hence the richness of the violets.



4362

Relationship to Illinois

I'm proud to have been born and raised in Illinois. Aside from attending college abroad, I've lived and worked here my whole life. Service to my local and extended community has always been one of my chief motivators. I have devoted and continue to devote my time and creative talents to organizations dedicated to uplifting and advancing Illinois communities. I currently work for an environmental non-profit, but I have a past (and likely a future) in public service.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design, "All Roads Lead to Home," is centered on the natural beauty and unique cultural significance of Illinois. The green invokes the native ecosystems that earn Illinois the title of "Prairie State." The yellow line symbolizes our status as both an agricultural and industrial powerhouse. The light blue represents the great IL waterways, railways, and roadways that connect our nation as a whole. The dark blue represents the Great Lakes, and the white Chicago star shines as a North Star.

4363

Relationship to Illinois

I'm Student.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag represents the color of the sky and the lake Michigan. Also, the white represents freedom. The laurel wreath represents victory and triumph. The flower represents the spring, and the color red represents love of citizens.



4364

Relationship to Illinois

I came to Illinois as a five-year-old immigrant from Mexico, with my mother's hand guiding me into a world both vast and unknown. Chicago opened its arms to us, offering the rhythm of the city as the backdrop to my childhood dreams. It's a place where the skyline dances with the clouds and the hum of the trains sings a lullaby of opportunity. My mother, ever resilient, carved out a path for us, and in those bustling streets, I found my footing. Chicago wasn't just a place—it was a promise, a son



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's Chicago River motif and white oak symbolize Illinois' natural strength and connection to its history. The white oak, the state tree, is essential to local ecosystems, offering shelter, stability, and life to wildlife. The Chicago River, linked to the Mississippi, represents Illinois' role as a hub for trade and culture. Together, they reflect the state's balance between nature and progress, embodying resilience, connection, and the enduring spirit of its people and land.

4365

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in the northern suburbs of Chicago and have lived my entire life in the state. I attended and received my Bachelor's Degree from Northeastern Illinois University as my parents. I love the state of Illinois's natural beauty and history. I enjoy going to many of the state parks like Starved Rock and White Pines and traveling to Springfield to see the numerous historical sites like the Old State Capital and the home of Lincoln as well as Grant's home in Galena.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The golden rising sun is inspired by the Illinois State Seal and current flag. It represents the importance of agriculture and has 18 rays for the year of statehood in 1818. The arch of 21 stars surrounding the sun represents Illinois being the 21st state, largest star symbolizing Illinois. 4 stripes represent the bodies of water bordering Illinois: Lake Michigan and Mississippi, Ohio and Wabash Rivers. The green background represents The Prairie State.

4366

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for the last 14 years. As a former artist, I had the privilege of traveling from coast to coast, seeing and exploring these great contiguous states. But IL is my chosen home, where I have found my chosen family. It was an easy and exciting inspiration to have the opportunity to use my creativity, my great appreciation for vexillology, and my deep love for this state to produce this prospective flag for official representation. Thank you for your consideration.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design pays homage to the Centennial Flag * echoing the IL star on a blue band. In this design are 8 conjoining lines, serving three meanings. 1. The resemblance of the veins of an Oak leaf (state tree), for the strength of the IL community, IL's grand nature, and its Native people. 2. The 8 lines represent the 8 compass points - for the history of IL as a hub and destination, resulting in a diverse population. And 3. The lines point toward the star, marking IL's rich history of innovation.

4367

Relationship to Illinois

I was born in Illinois and have lived in Bloomington-Normal my entire life! As a recent grad from ISU, I now have begun my career at State Farm. There is so much to do in my community, and I'm proud to be a part of it! As an Eagle Scout and someone who loved Social Studies, I have always been obsessed with our state's history and state flags. My mom, Julie Hinman, is an art teacher at Normal West High School. After I did my research and the design of the flag, I partnered with her.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Has elements of the original, Springfield, Chicago, and the US flags US flag standard colors Includes 3 rivers that border the state Center of the rivers - a windmill/IL sustainable energy Windmill on IL capitol 21 stars = 21st state 1818 Right = rivers flow into Lake Michigan by Hancock building Lake Michigan has world's largest bird sanctuary with our state bird Left = world's first silo/Spring Grove, IL IL - #1 producer of corn, soybeans, and pumpkins Red star = IL being first to ratify the 13th and 19

4368

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Illinois

Explain the meaning behind your flag

With the meaning of my flag I hoped to merge tradition with a modernist interpretation. I've kept the the Eagle, Rock, and state crest from the original state flag. I redesigned the eagle to reinterpret the National symbol in a more modern and angular Style. I utilized every color from the original flag in my flag as a way to maintain tradition in this modern interpretation. I aimed to keep the Regal Aura from the original but in my own style



4369

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for the last 14 years. As a former artist, I had the privilege of traveling from coast to coast, seeing and exploring these great contiguous states. But IL is my chosen home, where I have found my chosen family. It was an easy and exciting inspiration to have the opportunity to use my creativity, my great appreciation for vexillology, and my deep love for this state to produce this prospective flag for official representation. Thank you for your consideration.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design pays homage to the Centennial Flag * echoing the IL star on a blue band. In this design are 8 conjoining lines, serving three meanings. 1. The resemblance of the veins of an Oak leaf (state tree), for the strength of the IL community, IL's grand nature, and its Native people. 2. The 8 lines represent the 8 compass points - for the history of IL as a hub and destination, resulting in a diverse population. And 3. The lines point toward the star, marking IL's rich history of innovation.



4370

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Crystal Lake attending public schools. Father's family from Hegewisch dating back to 1886. Undergraduate degree in physics from UIUC (Bronze Tablet). Most friends still in Illinois. Returning back to Illinois after graduate degree from Stanford. As high school student got school flag replaced as old flag was inspired by Confederate flag. Road trip with brother visited all 3 capital cities.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Freedom and leaders. Edge: Illini blue Miss., Ohio, & Wabash, corner: Lake Mich., Illini orange: farms. White base. Center/left large star in Union blue: state motto. Inside star orange arrowheads based on art of Natives originally from Illinois. 3 broken chain links on bottom. Orange rust. "Breaks" 4th guide with purpose. 13 & 19 for 1st to ratify the 13th & 19th amendments. G/L for 1st to decriminalize being gay. Also president's initials. 13 is R: Reagan. 9 is O: Obama. G/L: Grant/Lincoln.

4371

Relationship to Illinois

With design advice from brother. We were born and raised in Crystal Lake attending public schools. Father's family from Hegewisch dating back to 1886. My undergraduate degree in physics from UIUC (Bronze Tablet). Most friends still in Illinois. Returning back to Illinois after graduate degree from Stanford. As high school student got school flag replaced as old flag was inspired by Confederate flag. Road trip with my brother visited all 3 capital cities.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Freedom & leaders. Edge: Illini blue Miss., Ohio, & Wabash, corner: Mich., Illini orange: farms. White base. Left large star in Union blue: state motto. Inside star orange arrowheads based on art of Natives originally from Illinois. 3 broken chain links on side. Red rust & green new growth. "Breaks" 4th guide with purpose. 13 & 19 for 1st to ratify the 13th & 19th amendments. G/L for 1st to decriminalize being gay. Also president's initials. 13 is R: Reagan. 9 is O: Obama. G/L: Grant/Lincoln.

4372

Relationship to Illinois

We moved to Illinois in 2004 just prior to the birth of our first of two children. We have put down roots here and our memories of family, friends and community continue to build through the years. Education is very important to us. I was recently elected to serve on our local School Board; I consider it an honor to serve in our community.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag3: This flag represents the gently rolling hills of Illinois, rich with the abundance of our agricultural sector -a cornerstone of our economy. The vibrant blue sky, soft green and golden yellow fields are woven together, symbol of our urban, suburban and rural communities. This gentle landscape is emblematic of the natural world -of farming and ranching -and how this sector aligns with economic prosperity. This flag reminds us that there is a time and place for all of us.

4373

Relationship to Illinois

With design advice from brother. We were born and raised in Crystal Lake attending public schools. Father's family from Hegewisch dating back to 1886. My undergraduate degree in physics from UIUC (Bronze Tablet). Most friends still in Illinois. Returning back to Illinois after graduate degree from Stanford. As high school student got school flag replaced as old flag was inspired by Confederate flag. Road trip with my brother visited all 3 capital cities.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Freedom & leaders. Edge: Illini blue Miss., Ohio, & Wabash, corner: Mich., Illini orange: farms. White base. Left large star in Union blue: state motto. Inside star orange arrowheads based on art of Natives originally from Illinois. 3 broken chain links on bottom. Red rust & green new growth. "Breaks" 4th guide with purpose. 13 & 19 for 1st to ratify the 13th & 19th amendments. G/L for 1st to decriminalize being gay. Also president's initials. 13 is R: Reagan. 9 is O: Obama. G/L: Grant/Lincoln.

4374



Relationship to Illinois

Live in Illinois. Family has been in the state since 1994

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Inspired by the 1918 Centennial flag. The triangle field has 21 stars to celebrate Illinois as the 21st state. The triangle resembles the steel plow invented by John Deere in Illinois. The 2 blue stripes represent the rivers and lake that form the borders of Illinois

4375



Relationship to Illinois

I live here, in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

It's brat.

4376



Relationship to Illinois

I came to Illinois as a five-year-old immigrant from Mexico, with my mother guiding me into a world of opportunity. Chicago embraced us, its skyline and trains singing a lullaby of hope. From Pilsen's murals to the Bean, I grew up intertwined with the city's spirit. After attending Walter Payton College Prep, I now carry Illinois' resilience and promise with me as a student at Cornell. Chicago is more than home; it's the melody of my journey, shaping my dreams.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's Chicago River motif and the motto "Land of Lincoln" reflect Illinois' vital role in shaping the nation. The river, connected to the Mississippi, symbolizes the state's historical significance as a hub for trade and culture, linking Illinois to the heart of the country. The "Land of Lincoln" honors Abraham Lincoln, whose leadership during the Civil War preserved the Union and ended slavery, embodying Illinois' legacy of justice, unity, and progress for all its people.

4377

Relationship to Illinois



I was born and raised in Illinois, and I have only lived in Illinois. I am studying to become an educator in Illinois, and I have big dreams that will continue here.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose the violet to feature because it's the state flower. The violet petals may not be joined, but they meld to form a beautiful image in the center of the flag. Likewise, although there are many different and separate types of people in Illinois, they all exist to form a beautiful connectedness. I chose the soft pink background to symbolize kindness, as well as to evoke a sunset. No other state features pink in their flag, so Illinois should be the first. I also think simple designs work.

4378

Relationship to Illinois



I have lived in Illinois for the last 14 years. As a former artist, I had the privilege of traveling from coast to coast, seeing and exploring these great contiguous states. But IL is my chosen home, where I have found my chosen family. It was an easy and exciting inspiration to have the opportunity to use my creativity, my great appreciation for vexillology, and my deep love for this state to produce this prospective flag for official representation. Thank you for your consideration.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design pays homage to the Centennial Flag * echoing the IL star on a blue band. In this design are 8 conjoining lines, serving three meanings. 1. The resemblance of the veins of an Oak leaf (state tree), for the strength of the IL community, IL's grand nature, and its Native people. 2. The 8 lines represent the 8 compass points - for the history of IL as a hub and destination, resulting in a diverse population. And 3. The lines point toward the star, marking IL's rich history of innovation.

4379

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for a long time, and I have experienced many different parts of the state, including the rural land between each small city, and Chicago. This flag was based partially on the cook county flag, while including other parts of the state that symbolize the feast of the state.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Multi color flag separating each color by a Y. The Blue represents the lakes and rivers, shaped into a Y to represent the two branches of the Chicago river. The yellow represents the state's namesake, the Prairie state, symbolizing different types of crops associated with it. The green represents Shawnee National Forest. Finally, the white end and the red stars symbolize both cook county based off it's flag design, and Chicago's stars

4380

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Springfield. Illinois is my home.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I have chosen the symbol of the violet because the violet our state flower. Having purple on a flag would set us apart. The violet's pistol separate from the petals represents our state sovereignty, the petals represent being part of the nation union. The 5 petals of the flower represent Diversity, Education, Agriculture, Technology, and Sustainable Energy. The top blue line represents lake Michigan, and the bottom our many rivers. The 3 white lines represent our 3 state capitols.



4381

Relationship to Illinois

I am a resident of Buffalo Grove, Illinois and have been for my entire life. In 2020 I attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to study history. I love to learn about our state by traveling to different Illinois cities, visiting local museums, attending public library lectures, reading, and connecting with other Illinois enthusiasts online. I also enjoy collecting Illinois-related knick knacks. I worked with Daniel Didech to write the first Illinois flag redesign contest bill.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Divided into 3 parts for 3 regions of Illinois: North, Central, South. Blue represents rivers and lakes that define state borders and built our state economically. White represents old state flag and history under it. Gold represents agriculture and prairies. Red stars represent state motto "State sovereignty, national union" on a red banner in the state seal. Top hat is for Abe Lincoln, the most remarkable Illinoisian and a great representation of state values: hard work, progress, justice.

4382

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois and this has been the only place I've ever lived. I have great pride in being from this great midwest state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The "Great Rivers" flag symbolizes Illinois' rich geography and community diversity. Two wavy lines represent the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, highlighting the state's importance in commerce and industry. A golden sun rises behind the rivers, symbolizing new opportunities and a bright future. Three 6-point stars, similar to those on the Chicago flag, represent the urban, suburban, and rural communities, uniting the state in progress and shared pride.



4383

Relationship to Illinois

I'm proud to have been born and raised in Illinois. Aside from attending college abroad, I've lived and worked in this state my whole life. Service to my local and extended community has always been one my chief motivators. I have devoted and continue to devote my time and creative talents to organizations dedicated to uplifting and advancing Illinois communities. I currently work for an environmental non-profit, but I have a past (and likely a future) in public service in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This design "The Cornerstone," honors the beauty and vital cultural significance of Illinois. The green invokes the native ecosystems that earn Illinois the title of "Prairie State," and also pays homage to the historic Cahokia Mounds. The yellow symbolizes our status as both an agricultural powerhouse, and it is divided into four rows to represent the four US presidents with IL roots. The light blue represents the great IL waterways, railways, and roadways that connect our nation as whole.



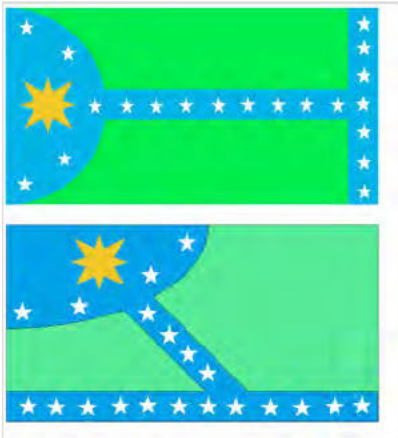
4384

Relationship to Illinois

This state has been my home my entire life. I was born here. I was educated here. I am employed here. I was married here. I am raising a family here. I am a proud Illinoisan.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Illinois is unique amongst the states of the Union. This state connects the Great Lakes with the mighty Mississippi River via the Illinois River Way. Adjacent to these waters are the green prairies. These waters and the prairies connect all of Illinois; urban, suburban, and rural communities. Included in this design are 21 stars which represents Illinois being the 21st state. One of the stars is a yellow star inspired by the sun of the state seal. 2 orientations provided.



4385

Relationship to Illinois

I have lived in Illinois for about 2/3 of my life * growing up in southern Illinois and now in Chicago where I've lived for the past eight years. Most of my friends and family live in Illinois so it's been a constant part of my life.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

Since Abraham Lincoln is one of Illinois' most beloved and recognizable icons, it makes sense to also feature him on our flag. He is a symbol of enduring hope and progress, especially during uncertain times of political division. A simple silhouette of Lincoln instantly communicates Illinois in a bold, clear manner without the need to write the name. The dark blue and white color palette continues the tradition of the Illinois flag colors and connects to the American flag.

4386

Relationship to Illinois

I was not born in Illinois but my parents were both born in Quincy. After I was born we moved around a lot, unable to find a community that we could be comfortable in. We decided to move back to Quincy when I was eight. I'd been to Quincy many times as most of my extended family lived there but I had never experienced what Illinois was actually like. I found happiness and stability in Illinois and it helped me become the person I am today.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The overall theme of red, white, and blue, resembles the patriotic spirit of Illinois. The wavy red resembles the beautiful sunsets you can see all over Illinois but also resembles the determination of all Illinoisans. The wavy blue resembles the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan while also shows how the people of Illinois are calm and smart-thinking. The diamond in the middle is a resemblance of an arrowhead which shows tribute to the Illiniwek that Illinois was named after.

4387

Relationship to Illinois



I was born and raised in Illinois. I'll explain the back side here. The back side of the flag (Yes a real thing look at Oregon's flag) It is the exact same with the tri color. There are a grand total of 13 stars. All of them are located side by side in the gray stripe. These stars represent the original 13 colonies.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The blue represents lake Michigan. The Gray represents Chicagoland. The green represents the rural areas. The 4 stars in the gray represent Chicago itself and also represent the states of VT, KY, TN and OH. While the 3 stars in the green represent Rockford, Springfield and Peoria and also represent LA, IN and MS The single star in the blue represents Illinois.

4388

Relationship to Illinois



I was born and raised in Illinois and this has been the only place I've ever lived. I have great pride in being from this great midwest state!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The "Strength in Diversity" flag highlights Illinois' agricultural heritage with a stylized wheat stalk symbolizing prosperity and an oak leaf representing strength. A central 6-point gold star, inspired by the Chicago flag, symbolizes unity among Illinois' urban, suburban, and rural communities, as well as progress and shared pride. The design reflects the state's strength in diversity and its bright future.

4389

Relationship to Illinois



I was born here and I am still living in Illinois. I proudly say that Illinois is my home state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The yellow part means the praries in the "prarie state." I love the bright sun here, so I included that too. The other colors represent the beautiful seasons in Illinois.

4390



Relationship to Illinois

Lifelong resident, 1995 to present.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I just drew all the things I think are great about Illinois, in order to express my pride in the state.

4391



Relationship to Illinois

I came to Illinois as a five-year-old immigrant from Mexico, with my mother guiding me into a world of opportunity. Chicago embraced us, its skyline and trains singing a lullaby of hope. From Pilsen's murals to the Bean, I grew up intertwined with the city's spirit. After attending Walter Payton College Prep, I now carry Illinois' resilience and promise with me as a student at Cornell. Chicago is more than home; it's the melody of my journey, shaping my dreams and story.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag's Chicago River motif reflects the city's role as a key gateway to the West and a vital train hub that connected the nation. The Chicago River, linked to the Mississippi, symbolizes Illinois' importance in trade and cultural exchange, while the trains made Chicago the heart of American industry and expansion. Together, they honor the city's legacy as a bridge between coasts and a symbol of progress, driving the nation forward in unity and opportunity.

4392



Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Illinois, and I have lived no where else. I have plans to continue studying in Illinois to be an educator.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

I chose this flag design because the violet and cardinal are the state flower and bird. The symmetry of both represent strength and structure, and the passionate pose of the cardinal represents the passion and creativity of the people of Illinois. The blue background represents the sky and the openness of the future. I was also inspired by The Hunger Games flag of Panem.



4393

Relationship to Illinois

Longtime resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Blue for water, white to represent purity and resemble the Chicago flag, yellow for corn. Fun shape (and I) to represent the fun spirit of Illinois!



4394

Relationship to Illinois

Born in Springfield, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

* What if a state's flag could serve as a source of light? Or at least represent its essence?* Honoring Illinois's connection to the Underground Railroad and the importance of the North Star in regards to navigation.* Honoring the historical usage of various methods of light.* If the flag is limited to 2 colors (3 if you include white) do current technological advancements allow for gradients to be used? How would the use of a gradient demonstrate a certain level of quality?



4395

Relationship to Illinois

We moved to Illinois in 2004 just prior to the birth of our first of two children. We have put down roots here and our memories of family, friends and community continue to build through the years. Education is very important to us. I was recently elected to serve on our local School Board; I consider it an honor to serve in our community.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

Flag2: This flag on a field of gold represents the rich economic benefit Illinois is to our United States, by generous exports and Chicago classified a world renown center of commerce. In the center we find the "Y," a historic and somewhat forgotten symbol of the Chicago Municipal Device. Where three rivers joined - so, too, is this symbol the joining of Urban, Suburban and Rural Peoples of Illinois. Around the center are twenty one stars -symbolic of Illinois joining as our 21st State.

4396

Relationship to Illinois

I was born and raised in Cabrini Green in Chicago, Illinois. I've been a full-time resident of Illinois my entire life and a business owner in Chicago for the past twenty years. Through the music manufacturing business I co-founded 15 years ago and my Creative Agency-Dsgnrz, my natural inclination to provide space to other creative entrepreneurs has helped launch over 5 businesses while developing my own*all in the city and state I love.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

This flag design draws inspiration from the rich history and cultural significance of the original Illiniwek Confederation, which consisted of six key tribes that once inhabited the region. Each feather in the artwork represents one of these tribes, symbolizing their contributions to the foundation of Illinois. The central vertical lines reference Route 66, the iconic highway that runs through Illinois, highlighting the state's role as a transportation hub. The blue outline reflects the numerous

4397

Relationship to Illinois

I'm a lifelong resident of Illinois, a former elected official, and a true admirer of our state and its history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

The flag is proportioned at a 12:8 ratio, the same as the state's proportions when the flag is hung vertically. It is divided into three horizontal stripes: the top is half the height, the bottom is 1/4, the middle is 1/8. Blue for Lake Michigan and our many rivers. Gold for grain. Lincoln green for Abe Lincoln and forests. Three white seven-pointed stars for the three regions (north, central, south), and their points add up to 21, as Illinois is the 21st state.

4398

Relationship to Illinois

Born and bred. Spent part of my childhood in Wisconsin, only to return with a deeper love of the state.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

This new design of the Illinois flag respects the past but also represents the future. Illinois has always been a pinnacle of progress. The golden horizon anchors us in our prairie roots. The blue represents our Midwestern sky and the waterways that give us prosperity. With the iconic 6-point star, we're both embracing and incorporating Chicago, and inviting a new chapter of Illinois history, yet to be written.



4431

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4432

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I have lived in Illinois for most of my 61 years. I have fond memories of growing up in Skokie. Both of my parents were raised in Chicago and I have resided in the north side of Chicago since 1990, living in the same home that we bought after we were married, where we raised 2 boys. I also attended an Illinois State College (EIU).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -With the state slogan being "The Land of Lincoln", I felt a strong image of the Lincoln is appropriate for our state flag. I kept the colors focused on nature: Sky, Sun, Grass, Soil. I'm aware that not many state flags have the state name on it but I feel like it adds a sense of "Say it loud, Say it proud".



4433

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-I was born and raised in Mahomet, IL, surrounded by beautiful natural areas that instilled in me a deep appreciation for our bodies of water and the environment. In Illinois, my immigrant family and I have been able to live out the American dream. Through hard work and dedication, my family established a beloved Mexican restaurant in our small town, which has been supported by the community for over a decade.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The star in the center represents our state capital, Springfield. It features four golden beams symbolizing a sunrise, reflecting a promising future and representing the importance of agriculture. The three blue beams represent our three main rivers: the Mississippi River, the Ohio River, and the Wabash River. The two golden stars commemorate historic landmarks from 1818 and 1809. The expansive blue background represents Lake Michigan, highlighting its significance and enormity.

4434

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-I was born and raised in Mahomet, IL, surrounded by beautiful natural areas that instilled in me a deep appreciation for our bodies of water and the environment. In Illinois, my immigrant family and I have been able to live out the American dream. Through hard work and dedication, my family established a beloved Mexican restaurant in our small town, which has been supported by the community for over a decade.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The two blue stripes outlining the flag represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. In the center, a golden sun and kernels symbolize our agriculture and a promising future. The cardinal, our state bird, highlights our connection to nature. At the tail of the cardinal, three building-like shapes represent the first skyscrapers and our cities.



4435

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4436

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I have spent my entire life in Illinois. I was born in Belleville, raised in Fairview Heights, and received my BFA from Quincy University. I returned to Fairview Heights to raise three children. I taught and coached in Belleville and ran a graphic design/screen printing business there for 32 years. I am now retired and living in Belleville.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The overall shape of the image reflects the unique physical shape of our state. The white field is an homage to our current flag. The fluid blue stripe is the important Mississippi River. The yellow on green suggests the agriculture with an ear of corn peaking through its husk. Corn has been essential since the great Cahokia Mississippian culture of the 1100s. Lake Michigan, Chicago, & industry (a gear) descend from the upper right. "ILLINOIS" is included, as it was added to the original

4437

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I have spent my entire life in Illinois. I was born in Belleville, raised in Fairview Heights, and received my BFA from Quincy University. I returned to Fairview Heights to raise three children. I taught and coached in Belleville and ran a graphic design/screen printing business there for 32 years. I am now retired and living in Belleville.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The central motif serves a dual purpose. It is a fluted column representing the culture & majesty of our largest city. In conjunction with the circular "sun" above, it represents the letter "I" for Illinois. The blue at the bottom represents Lake Michigan & our many great riverways. Thee alternating stripes suggest agriculture, specifically corn. The importance of which cannot be overstated. Above is a blue sky & the aforementioned sun shining brightly on our fair state.

4438

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I have spent my entire life in Illinois. I was born in Belleville, raised in Fairview Heights, and received my BFA from Quincy University. I returned to Fairview Heights to raise three children. I taught and coached in Belleville and ran a graphic design/screen printing business there for 32 years. I am now retired and living in Belleville.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The circle on a rectangle design of this flag is a reference to its predecessor. The copper circle in the center is symbolic of the iconic Lincoln penny. The gear represents industry. The green field & the surrounding corn "flower" (cob cross-section) is a symbol of agriculture, specifically corn which is as important to Illinois today as it was 900 years ago. The Cardinal red ring of 24 dots represents both our state bird & the woodhenge at the Cahokia Mounds Archeological Site.



4439

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from All Saints Catholic Academy in Rockford, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - What the flag means is first the gold represents one of the Illinois colors. The blue represents the Mississippi River. The green represents the prairie state and the "I" represents Illinois.



4440

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from All Saints Catholic Academy in Rockford, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The "I" is for Illinois. The bottom is for the Mississippi River. I think Illinois has beautiful sunsets.



4441

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from All Saints Catholic Academy in Rockford, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The blue water represents the Illinois River and how it's in the middle of Illinois. The green represents the prairie. The sun is for the "I" so it looks like the "I" is shining.



4442

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from All Saints Catholic Academy in Rockford, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The prairie grass because we are the prairie state. The "I" stands for Illinois. The sun to grow the prairies.



4443

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from All Saints Catholic Academy in Rockford, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The sun describes giving sunlight to the prairie grass. The "I" describes Illinois. The grass represents the prairie grass.



4444

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from All Saints Catholic Academy in Rockford, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The "I" stands for Illinois. The corn is for the prairie state. The circle is for the prairie lands. The color - blue, yellow and green.



4445

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4446

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4447

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4448

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4449

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4450

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4451

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4452

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4453

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4454

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4455

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4456

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4457

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4464

Relationship to Illinois

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MMiller -



4465

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4466

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4467

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4468

Relationship to Illinois

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Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4469

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by a student from Ms. Lowe's Social Studies class at Riley School District 18 in Marengo, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4470

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag's main components are the Cardinal and corn. I used corn to symbolize the agricultural parts of Illinois and the Cardinal is the state bird. Lastly, I chose blue for the background because Illinois has been a democratic state for awhile and there is a self-explanatory white "I" in the middle.

4471



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The "Land of Lincoln" part is because Illinois is the land of Lincoln. The state of Illinois is green because Illinois is a prairie state and prairies are green. The cardinal is there because the cardinal is the state bird.

4472



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -When I was younger, my grandpa had a stuffed cardinal on his headboard. It was like a beanie baby or something. When I asked him about it, he said it represented Illinois. Since then I have always enjoyed seeing a cardinal in the backyard, especially since we don't get many in my neighborhood. And the cornfields might just be my favorite part of Illinois. So I included those too.

4473



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I really love the corn and soybean fields in my area. So I used yellow for corn and green for soybeans.

4474



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I incorporated a farm landscape because my house is close to a farm and I love the scenery. I also had to incorporate the common blue violet because it's so beautiful and I included corn because it's an important part of Illinois crop and it's so delicious.

4475



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The meaning behind my flag started with me really loving the common blue violet because of its beautiful purple color. It worked out that it was the Illinois state flower and I had to incorporate it because it's so beautiful yet unique. I love anything simple and elegant so I tried to make my flag submission elegant yet simple.

4476



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - There is an orange "I" for Illinois splitting the flag into two squares. There is corn because Illinois grows a lot of corn. There is a cardinal because that is the state bird.

4477



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The meaning is the France flag plus the Illinois flag to make USA colors. And our crops of corn because it's represented by Illinois. Also it has the start of the national anthem.

4478



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The eagle is for America. The corn and wheat is what is the most eaten food. The sun is for the 13th Amendment. The Illinois flag is for the most popular team.

4479



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The large star represents the state capital of Springfield since on maps instead of a dot capitals are a star. White stripe = innocence since we are good people. Red = bravery. Blue = perseverance since we will always try.

4480



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - There's a cardinal on the front because a red cardinal is Illinois' state bird. I put it standing on corn because Illinois is famous in growing corn. I used the background colors orange and blue because that's Illini's colors. I made everything in this flag represent something. I hope you accept!

4481



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The blue background is because the union. The red star is for the Chicago fire. 20 stars for the 20 states before us. The big star is for Illinois. The top hat is for President Lincoln.

4482



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - In the background, the 4 "I's" in the corner represent Illinois. The skyline in the background is Chicago. 1818 is when Illinois was founded. The colors on the trophy represent the Great Chicago Fire. A violet in the middle is the state flower. The I's are outlined in black and purple for Illini.



4483

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I made corn to represent our farmland. I made 21 stars because Illinois is the 21st state on America.



4484

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I put the hat because Abraham Lincoln was from Illinois. And we produce a lot of corn so there is corn. The background also has 3 of the Illinois state colors.



4485

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - On my flag the Abraham Lincoln hat and the 5 red dashes symbolize the 5 years he served in the Civil War. The blue stripe symbolizes the great lake and the green plains.



4486

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The orange and dark blue represent University of Illinois. The hat represents Abraham Lincoln. Corn represents the fields.



4487

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The hat is Lincoln's hat. Brown is for slavery. Orange and red are some of the colors of the University. The flowers are the state flower.



4488

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The sun is shining on a new Illinois flag. The deer, cardinal, and corn all represent things native to Illinois.



4489

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] a student at Next Generation School in Champaign.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - These symbols represent Illinois state animals, crops, foods, and flowers.

4490

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I am 78 years old and I have spent all of those years living in Illinois and I intend to spend whatever years I have left in this wonderful state (although I do sometimes vacation in Michigan).

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The star within a star stands for our state motto, smaller blue star for state sovereignty, larger green star for national union, white triangle for IL pointing the way forward (being 1st state to ratify 13th Amendment abolishing slavery). Top blue stripe for our vast skies, green stripe for farmlands, cities, towns, villages & bottom blue stripe for lakes & rivers both inland & bordering IL. The end points forward because we lead the way (1st skyscraper, 1st cell phone invented & more



4491

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I have lived in IL my entire life. I was born in Skokie & lived in Chicago until I was 3 years old at which time my family moved to Morton Grove. That is where I spent my childhood, went to school, rode my bike, played with friends in the neighborhood until we saw the streetlights, while the parents talked & you couldn't wait to hear the bells of the Good Humor ice cream truck coming down the road. We spent summer swimming at the park pool, playing baseball & the winters going to movies

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The outline of the state is center, across top reads "Land of Lincoln", to the right is a silhouette of Abraham Lincoln, on left is white-tailed deer, cardinal, some violets, and a cluster of oak leaves (all state symbols). Along bottom is the blue water of Lake Michigan and in black a skyline from left to right representing our state prairie, to our farm fields of corn showing the silo and barns of our countryside, flowing into the homes of our suburbs and ending with some skyscrapers.



4492

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-I have lived in IL my entire life. I was born in Skokie & lived in Chicago until I was 3 years old at which time my family moved to Morton Grove. That is where I spent my childhood, went to school, rode my bike, played with friends in the neighborhood until we saw the streetlights, while the parents talked & you couldn't wait to hear the bells of the Good Humor ice cream truck coming down the road. We spent summer swimming at the park pool, playing baseball & the winters going to movies



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The outline of the state is center, across top reads "Land of Lincoln", at center is a portrait of Abraham Lincoln, on left is a cardinal, some violets, and a cluster of oak leaves (all state symbols). Along bottom is the blue water of Lake Michigan and in black a skyline from left to right representing our state prairie, to our farm fields of corn showing the silo and barns of our countryside, flowing into the homes of our suburbs and ending with some skyscrapers.

4493

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs.Fiona submitted this design. "I was born here and have lived here my whole life."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The trees rising out of the water represent the many water ways we have in Illinois and looking how far we have come on the lots of things we have here now. The two trees that are rising up out of the water are white oaks, our state tree. The two cardinals represent our state bird and being united.



4494

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Marvin submitted this design. "I was born in the suburbs of Chicago and moved to the city and Illinois is a great place."



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew a river to represent the Mississippi River, prairie grass to show that we are the prairie state, a tree to represent the oak tree, a Northern Cardinal to represent our states bird, I drew the sun higher to show Illinois has more hope. I wrote years, one on top for our most recent flag, one on bottom for our new official flag. I drew 21 goldrush apples to represent our state apple and to show that our state is the 21st state.

4495

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Norah submitted this design. "My sister and I were born here. My dad and his siblings were born here."



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - In the middle is an eagle. It represents freedom in IL because we were one of the 1st states to get rid of slavery. The pumpkins represent the pumpkins that grow in Southern IL. The prairie grass represents the prairie filled area that we are and still are today. I put the Sears tower (or Willis Tower) to show how Chicago had a great impact on IL. The sun is there because on the old flag there was a sun & it was lower for a growing IL, but higher now that we are more grown.

4496

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs.Rhea submitted this design. "I'm the only one in my family born in IL and I feel like it's apart of me now."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I made the background pink because it represents health and compassion. I gave the baby white-tailed deer 21 spots because Illinois is the 21st state. I added the white-tailed deer because it is our state animal. I put a violet instead of a star in the corner because I wanted to get creative and a violet is our state flower.



4497

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs.Luka submitted this design. "I came to Illinois when I was 6 and I got a brother this year in 2024."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I put a campfire to represent the Great Chicago Fire. The color violet represents the flower. In the campfire are white oak logs. The blue is for the water, gray for buildings and skyscrapers and green for the prairie.



4498

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs.Victor submitted this design. "I moved to Chicago in 2021."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -On the flag there is an oak tree because it is the state tree. The red on the left represents passion for our state. The red on the right represents force. The blue represents our bodies of water and peace.



4499



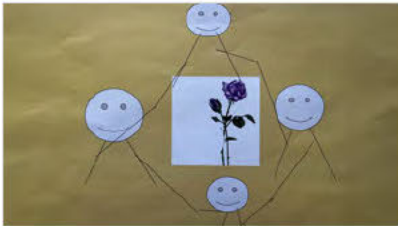
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs.Zakyiah submitted this design. "I was born in Illinois and I like Illinois."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -First I did the bottom which has a plain orange color, some whipped cream with some pumpkin inside. I made it because I learned it is our state pie.

4500



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs.Ayden submitted this design. "I was born in Illinois."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -In my flag I did a yellow background to represent the prairies. I did a violet because it's our state flower. The people holding hands are there to say everyone here is happy.

4501



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs.Samantha submitted this design. "I was born in Illinois. I have lived in Illinois my whole life"

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I used green triangles on the bottom representing prairie grass. I used a sun in the corner representing life. I used a bald eagle to represent the United States. I did red and white on the sides to represent the original colonies. The blue lines on both sides represent lakes and rivers. Last but not least an Illinois banner.

4502

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Luna submitted this design. "I moved to Illinois this year and all my family members live here."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew a violet because it is our state flower. I drew tall grass to represent prairie grass and used blue and red for the stripes. I drew a tree with a northern cardinal on the tree because it is our state bird and I wrote 1818 and 1868 because 1818 was when Illinois got their official state and 1868 was when their flag.



4503

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Rebecca submitted this design. "I lived in Illinois since I was a baby or a little girl."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew the white oak tree because it is our state symbol. Then I put 50 leaves falling to symbolize the 50 states. I also put two blue stripes at the side to be the Mississippi River and the second blue stripe is Lake Michigan. I drew a star in the corner to represent Springfield. Then I made tall gold prairie grass to resemble the Illinois prairies. Lastly, I made a blue sky to represent how beautiful Illinois is.



4504

Relationship to Illinois

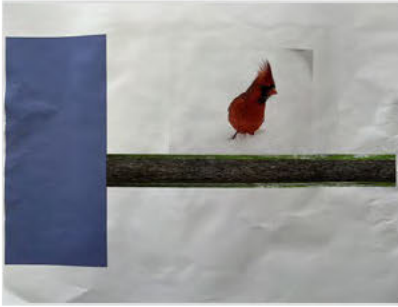
MMiller -Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Zeynep submitted this design. "I moved here when I was really young and it is now one of my favorite places."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The eagle represents freedom and hope. I have corn on the flag because it is the state grain. The brown on the ground is very rich soil and corn can grow on top. There is the state motto on an orange flag.



4505



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Naia submitted this design. "I was born in Illinois and I lived here for my whole life."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I put a cardinal because it is the state bird and I also put a violet stripe on the left side. I also put a white oak tree branch so the northern cardinal can stand.

4506



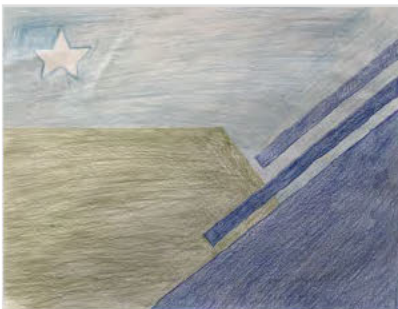
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Oscar submitted this design. "I was born in Illinois and I lived here for my whole life."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The bird represents a northern red cardinal. I chose it because it is the state bird and its red feathers represent strength. The blue and orange are the states colors. Blue represents emblem of steadfastness, stability and the Great Lakes, Lake Michigan, Chicago River and Ohio River. The torch represents freedom and the olive branch means peace.

4507



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Emi submitted this design. "I was born in Illinois and I lived here for my whole life."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The star on the top left means that Illinois is one of the states in the US. The light blue represents the bright sky that brings you energy and happiness into your life. The dark blue represents the body of water and the 2 stripes means that there are multiple bodies of water. The green represents the prairie land of Illinois.

4508

Relationship to Illinois



MMiller - Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Aligail submitted this design. "I was born in Illinois and I love it here."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The green represents the prairie grass of Illinois. The blue represents our beautiful Lake Michigan and all of our rivers. The white star represents our magnificent Springfield. The purple flowers represent violets, our state flower.

4509

Relationship to Illinois



MMiller - Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Lavi submitted this design. "I lived in Illinois since 2019."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The green background represents the prairie because we are the prairie state. The yellow stripes represent the sweet corn that would grow in the in the prairies. The stars symbolize that "Illinois" are the stars.

4510

Relationship to Illinois



MMiller - Ms. Hime's 4th grade class at Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Chicago enjoyed creating new state flag designs. Isla submitted this design. "I grew up and lived (not all my life) in Illinois."

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The dark blue sky represents our rainy days. The water represents Lake Michigan and the Chicago River. The top hat and bowtie represent Abraham Lincoln. I included Abraham Lincoln because he was a great president that lived in Illinois. And the sun represents our hopes and expectations rising for Illinois.



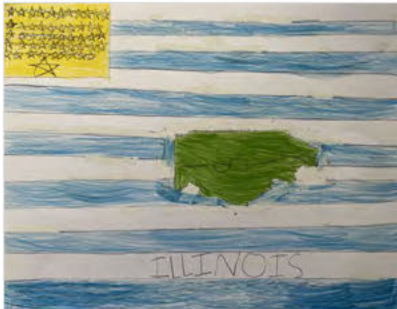
4511

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by the parents of Owen, 10 years old.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The name of my design is "We Are Illinois." I think we should have a new flag because we need a new one!!!



4512

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Libby's design



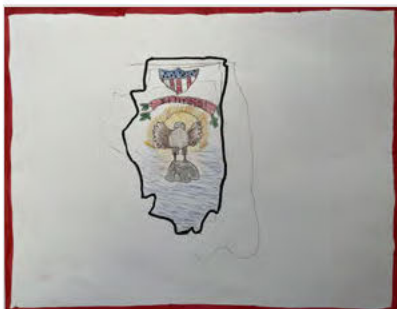
4513

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Helena's design



4514

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Clara's design



4515

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Harper's design



4516

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Michael's design



4517

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Ryder's design



4518

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Leeloo's design



4519

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Henrick's design



4520

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4521

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Connor's design.



4522

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Remi's design.



4523

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Bea's design.



4524

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Tommy's design.



4525

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Take's design.



4526

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Ella's design.



4527

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by 4th grade students of West School in Glencoe

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Davis's design.

4528

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Dear Governor Giannoulas, I ask that you consider my flag seriously. I have no doubt that you weren't going to, but I wanted to make sure. My name is Teddy, I've lived in Cook County my whole life and was born in Evanston and currently live in Glenview. I'm 13 years old and attend Springman Middle School and will go to Glenbrook South High School next year.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Here's what all the symbols and colors stand for: Blue background shows our state perseverance and justice. Chicago River symbol in the middle shows the 3 branches - South, North, and the Main stem. Top third of the river symbol - Northern Cardinal, the state's bird. Bottom left third - white-tailed deer, the state's animal. Bottom right third - common blue violet, the state's flower. Text going around the river symbol - the state's motto.

4529

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - My name is Tim. My wife Rebecca and I live in Round Lake Beach, IL & we have designed this flag together. My family has lived in IL for several generations in various parts of the state, while Rebecca moved here about 25 years ago.

Historically, the 1915 state flag was designed by the Daughters of the American Revolution, an organization that Rebecca has been involved with since childhood. We hope to carry on this tradition as we add a new flag to the history of IL.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Our flag's theme is of parts working together to form a greater whole. The colors come from the "three sisters," an agricultural method used in pre-Columbian Illinois, in which corn, beans & squash were planted together to uniquely enrich and protect each other. Illinois itself is symbolized by our state prairie grass, the Big Bluestem, with its three stalks. It is encircled by 10 stars, representing the perfection and completeness that can be achieved when people come together as one.

4530

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I am a new resident of Illinois as of January 2024. My family and I relocated from Colorado when my wife was offered and accepted a position with the Peoria Park District. She is a proud member of the executive board and is making a great positive impact with the District. I have always been drawn to Illinois, Chicago namely, but most recently when I flew on a very small plane to Carbondale for work. The opportunity and history of IL are what drew us in and the hope for a bright future



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - This flag represents progress and leadership with its bold colors and forward movement. The symbolism of the star is freedom, independence, hope and light. The colors represented are: Blue (for Illinois' many waterways and the Great Lake, as well as leadership and unity). White (for hope, peace and faith). Red (for bravery and courage, a thank you to our veterans.)

4531

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I am a new resident of Illinois as of January 2024. My family and I relocated from Colorado when my wife was offered and accepted a position with the Peoria Park District. She is a proud member of the executive board and is making a great positive impact with the District. I have always been drawn to Illinois, Chicago namely, but most recently when I flew on a very small plane to Carbondale for work. The opportunity and history of IL are what drew us in and the hope for a bright future



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - This flag utilizes a bold design seen throughout the world & within the US with a slight modification of the bend in the stripe. This bend represents Illinois' rivers & their relation to our crop industry. The symbolism of the star is freedom, independence, hope & light. The colors represented are: Blue (for Illinois' many waterways & the Great Lake, as well as leadership & unity). White (for hope, peace & faith). Yellow (for agriculture, namely corn, but all of IL commercial crops).

4532

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - I am a new resident of Illinois as of January 2024. My family and I relocated from Colorado when my wife was offered and accepted a position with the Peoria Park District. She is a proud member of the executive board and is making a great positive impact with the District. I have always been drawn to Illinois, Chicago namely, but most recently when I flew on a very small plane to Carbondale for work. The opportunity and history of IL are what drew us in and the hope for a bright future



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - This flag is a nod to history & Illinois' place in the world not only as a region of the US, but a state unto its own within the world at large. The symbolism of the dual 8-sided stars is to honor the tribal peoples that occupied our state before colonization. The colors represented are: Blue (for Illinois' many waterways & the Great Lake, as well as leadership & unity). White (for hope, peace & faith). Red (for bravery and courage, a thank you to our veterans.)

4533

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -As a fifth-generation Illinoisan, my journey began in Chicago 44 years ago today. I've toured the state for sports, business, & education, appreciating the consensus that our state is the heartland of America, unique & indispensable to the rest of the country & the world. In 2010 and 2012, I completed the Chicago Marathon. Additionally, my graphic design studio in Chicago focuses on inspiring humanity through creative ingenuity that is both intellectually sound & viscerally responsible.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Soft blue background represents Lake Michigan, the Great Lakes, clean water, energy, & open prairies. The placement of the center logo represents the heartland of America, the Midwest, & the Land of Lincoln. It's filled in with the union escutcheon. The red & white stripes represent the 13 original colonies & agriculture, the blue stripe for unity, & 21 stars represent IL becoming a state, with one star being the Chicago star to represent location & the 3rd largest city in the nation.

4534

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The Northern Cardinal represents the state bird because they are always everywhere where I'm at and the blue represents the water.

4535

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I did this cause I love Illinois.



4536

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My reason for my flag is the red and blue for freedom and the green for our prairie and the cardinal for our bird.



4537

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I honestly don't know why I did my drawing the way that it is, but probably because the only thing I'm good at drawing is flowers. I guess that I wanted to add flowers to my flag since I can only draw flowers better than anything else I draw. For the bird, I drew it only because the background seemed empty. The same reason for the stripes.



4538

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The reason for my design is because I think we need a flag that represents Illinois, Chicago.



4539

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The four stars stand for Union National Sovereignty State



4540

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew my drawing like this because Illinois is a state in America and Illinois has animals like the cardinal and the white-tailed deer and beautiful sunsets.



4541

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason I made my design is because the field with flowers represents freedom. Also I picked red because it reminds me of Illinois.



Illinois Flag Commission Submissions

4542



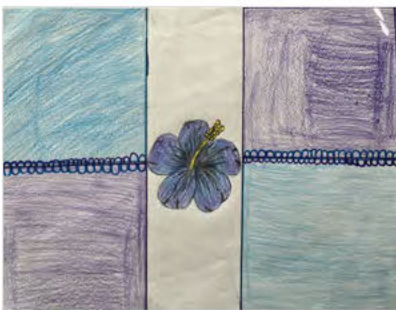
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The shield is to represent the Army and the eagle means to represent the bald eagle and strength, courage, freedom and immortality. The stars represent union national sovereignty state.

4543



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I did a blue violet because it is the state flower of Illinois. I did blue and purple because it is the colors of the violet. I divided it into four parts for cardinal directions.



4544

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew this because I like butterflies and flowers.



4545

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I did a butterfly, pumpkin pie, corn and cardinal because they are state symbols.



4546

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew this because I like the eagle.



4547

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I love to draw, know things, and be creative. I think this is a great opportunity to be creative.

4548



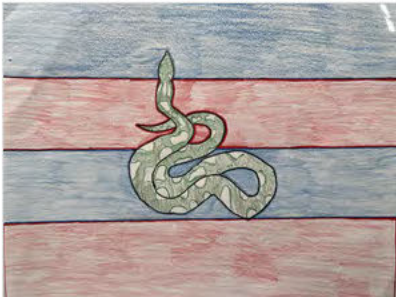
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The butterfly means freedom and no violence. The purple means state flower, violet.

4549



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I chose red and blue because the American flag is red, white and blue. A snake for our flag because it's a state amphibian.

4550



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I made it look like the USA flag, but different cause the USA flag is my favorite and I wanted it to kinda look like the USA. I put an eagle because it is also my favorite.

4551

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I put an I to represent Illinois and it is still an I when backwards. I drew the bean because it's a famous landmark in Illinois. I drew a sun and a moon to represent day and night. The monarch represents the states butterfly. I drew Lake Michigan because the lake is apart of Illinois. The violet represents the state's flower. Popcorn represents the state's snack. The white oak is the state's tree.



4552

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I chose to draw a flower to represent nature and the violet/state flower. I put raindrops to represent the rain because it's always raining. I put blue on the bottom to represent the rivers/oceans. I put Illinois red because I didn't know what color to use.



4553

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Violets are the signature flower of Illinois and a cardinal is the signature bird.





4554

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The purple represents the violet which is the state flower. And the corn represents the state grain and the corn fields.



4555

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I want to represent a new flag.



4556

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew this flag because the colors represent the Chicago Cubs colors and the cardinal is also a representation of Chicago.



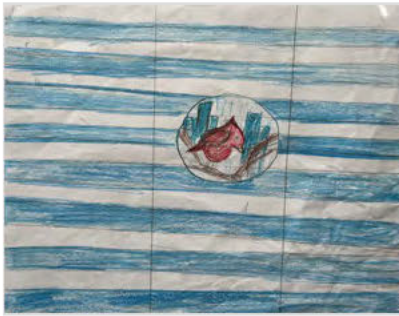
4557

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My design is for the cardinal and the US flag.



4558

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The bird resembles the state bird the cardinal. And the blue resembles the sky and the rain.



4559

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My reason for my flag is that my flag is all about Illinois and Illinois facts.



4560

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4561

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My reason for this is because there is a lot of cardinals in our state.



4562

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I chose this design because pie stands for the pumpkin and the colors stand for the pumpkin.



4563

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Reason for design, because I like the colors and I like pumpkins and turkeys.



4564

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I did pumpkin pie and the bird because there are a lot in Illinois.



4565

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Stars are for decoration. Colors for the flag.



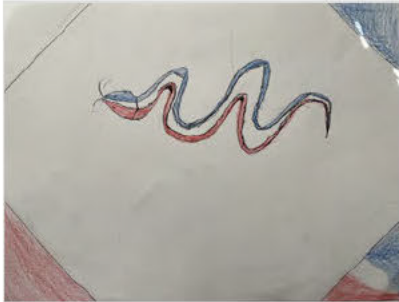
4566

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew it because I like birds.



4567

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4568

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason I did this was for my grade and to make it look nice.



4569

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My reason for this design is to represent the clear blue sky and green hills on the side. Chicago's four red stars and big black star representing Springfield and four blue stars representing Joliet, Aurora, Naperville and Rockford.



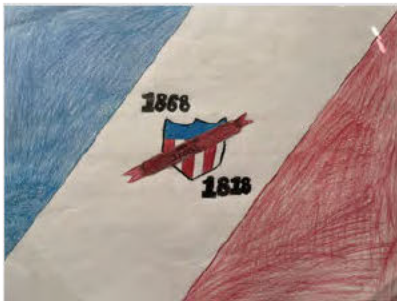
4570

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -For Illinois to get a new flag.



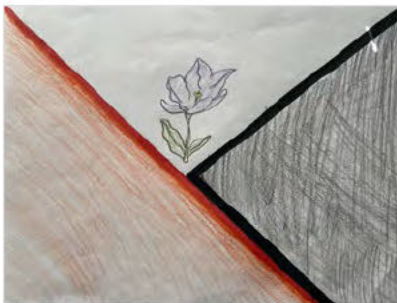
4571

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Hi, the colors on my flag represent the colors on the American flag and my flag is really simple so I have the years 1868 and 1818 from the previous flag and have the ribbon that says the state of Illinois and the state stamp.



4572

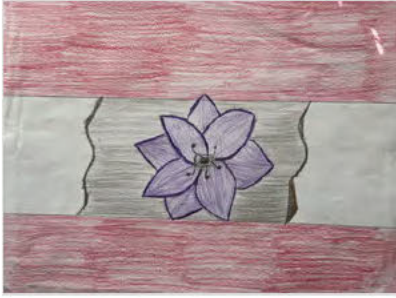
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I put these colors because they are from the monarch butterfly and that flower because it is the state flower.

4573



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I made this flag and I put the color red because it represents the enemies that tried to attack the United States. The gray color that is around the flower I put it because it means all the people who worked very hard to make the city of Chicago Illinois. And the flower is the flower of Illinois.

4574



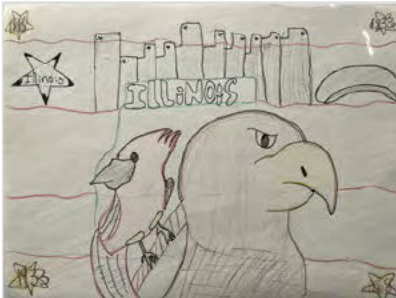
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason of my design is because I like birds.

4575



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - In the picture there are two birds that resemble USA, the eagle and the cardinal, and both of them mean freedom. I drew them because the cardinal is always spotted in Illinois and the eagle is for USA freedom. The stars mean the first star is for Dearborn, second for the Great Chicago Fire, third and fourth for the two world fairs that took place in Chicago.



4576

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew it because it's the flower of Illinois.



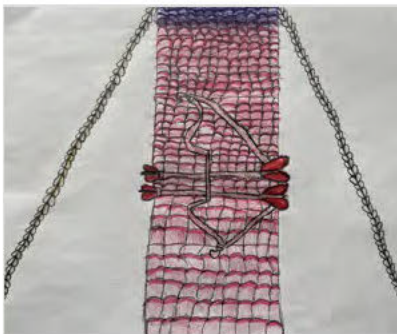
4577

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I did this to make Illinois look fresh.



4578

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason is I don't know the true meaning of archery, but it looks like it is very old and I like it for the flag.



4579

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Illinois needs a new flag.



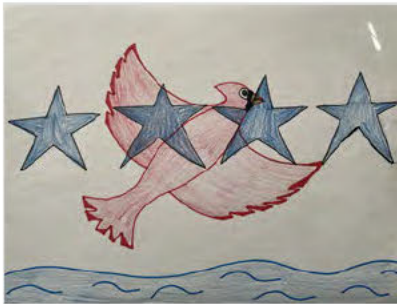
4580

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The butterfly is the state insect, the white-tailed deer is the state animal, the violets represent the state flower and the prairie represents the prairie in Illinois.



4581

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew this because it represents the state bird. The lake because Illinois is connected to one of the great lakes. The 4 stars to represent Chicago since that's the nearest downtown to me and the most common city.



4582

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My reason is because with my flags you will tell that it is the Illinois flag.



4583

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -It is an Illinois bird.



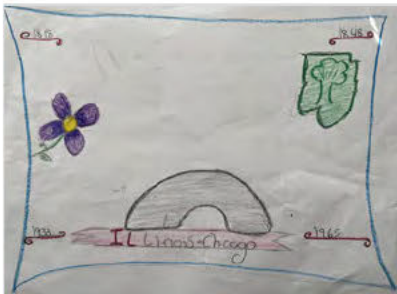
4584

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - It is an Illinois bird.



4585

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I made this design because I want to represent Illinois with a new flag. 1818 = In 1818 this is when Illinois became a state. 1933 = This is when Chicago led the world fair. 1965 = This was when Illinois was the first state to ratify the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery. 1848 = When Illinois and Michigan Canal opens. State flower = violet. State grain = corn.



4586

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My reason for doing this design was because this design is simple and the flower is the state flower.



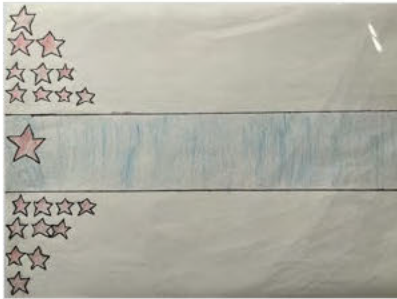
4587

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew a bluegill because it was in the state flag.



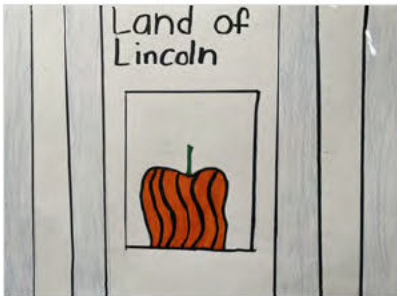
4588

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The 21 stars represent when it had joined. Since it was the 21st state to join the US.



4589

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



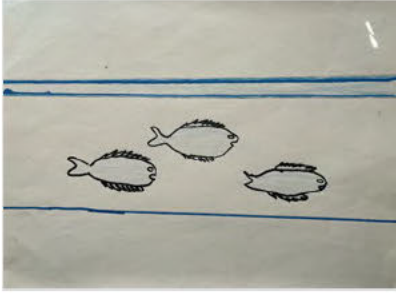
4590

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew Lake Michigan because it's one of the largest lakes in the US and it's in Michigan and Illinois. I drew the Chicago Fire because it was a big fire and big memory in Illinois because it was a tragedy. I drew the state flower, bird (cardinal) and animal. I drew the bean because it is something important in Chicago.



4591

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My design is for Wolf Lake and the state fish, bluegill.



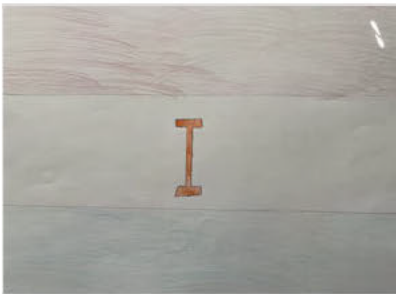
4592

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew flowers because I like to draw flowers. And because it's one of my favorite things to draw.



4593

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag means the color of the Chicago flag and Illinois college sports logo



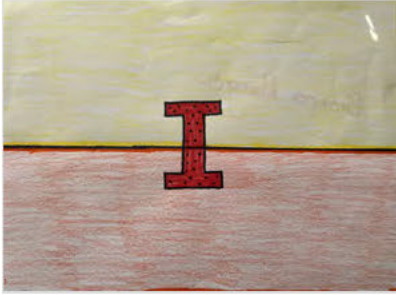
4594

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The stars are meant for the states. The state is always going to be about the eagle. The flag is about our freedom.



4595

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason that I made this flag is because I want the new flag to be pretty.



4596

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4597

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew this because the bird is one of the state symbols.



4598

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - 1 star = Treaty. 2 star = the most violent. 3 star = one of the oldest cities. The badge is for honor. The American flag is for every freedom. This state is always about the eagle. Yellow is for honor.

4599



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The cardinal represents the state bird. The white-tailed deer represents the state animal. The violets represent the state flower. The prairie represents the many prairie areas in Illinois.

4600



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Abraham is still watching over his hometown. Corn, since we have a lot of fields. Cardinal, state bird. Violet, state flower. Bluegill, state fish.

4601



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My design is beautiful and nice and I love it.

4602



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason I drew this is because I like eagles.



4603

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew a dog because bulldogs are famous here. Michigan because we are so close to Michigan. Fireworks because of the 4th of July.



4604

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew a fish because it is in Illinois and because I like it and we eat fish in Illinois.



4605

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -

4606

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew corn because there is a lot in Illinois and a purple violet too. 1818 is when Illinois became a state, 1933 was when the Chicago World Fair happened, 1965 is when Illinois was the first state to ratify the 13th amendment abolishing slavery. I drew the route 66 sign because it is famous. The bean is also one of the most famous things in Illinois. Illinois also has a lot of buildings.



4607

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I like the bird of our state.



4608

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew violets for the state flower and red is for the bird.



4609

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I picked the bird because it is beautiful and is the state bird.





4610

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My reason for my design was because I like nature, plants, birds and butterflies.



4611

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew this because I like my city and I just wanted to participate and try to make a flag.



4612

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew this because it has my favorite colors and I like the designs.



4613

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The goldrush apple was named the state fruit.



4614

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I thought of doing this flag because I know that the United States like's popcorn.



4615

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew the bird because of the state bird. The purple for the flower.



4616

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew this because I love my city. I drew a butterfly because Illinois flies like a butterfly. I drew a star because stars help you be calm and imaginary as a child. I drew a moon and stars.



4617

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew a flower because I want to?



4618

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew a moon because I like to look at the stars.



4619

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I made the stars because I like them.



4620

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Red for the cardinal, yellow for the summer. And stars for the design.



4621

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I picked the butterfly because it was the state insect and I haven't seen a flag with a butterfly on it.



4622

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew this because it would look pretty on the Illinois flag.



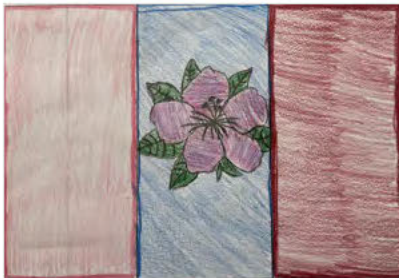
4623

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED], a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



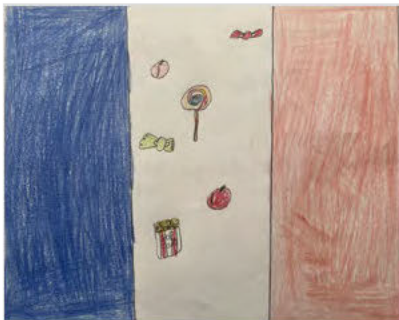
4624

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I picked a flower because I like drawing flowers.



4625

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Because I like the color and it looks cute.



4626

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4627

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The 7 stars are for the bean, Willis Tower, Buckingham Fountain, Art Institute of Chicago, gold rush apple, common blue violet, leaning tower of Niles. All of those things are in the stars.



4628

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The red cardinal represents the Illinois state bird and the violet flower represents the state flower. The blue on the bottom represents Lake Michigan. The corn on the red stripe represents that Illinois has a lot of corn. The red stripes represent the Chicago Fire. The red stars on the blue stripe represent the 3 major cities in Illinois.

4629



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I put a heart because I love Illinois. I also drew flowers because I love how they look and smell. I also love the weather and I drew a cross so God could be with us.

4630



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I did the deer for the white-tailed deer. The yellow for corn and the red for cardinals.

4631



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew this flag because we have flags all over the world that show you what country you are in or what countries there are all over the world. I picked blue because the blue reminds me of the sky. And the black is from the sky when it's night and there's stars in the sky when it's night.



4632

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I included Illinois symbols.



4633

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4634

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew this cross because I go to church and believe in God. Also, because I love St. Jude and I believe in St. Jude too.



4635

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



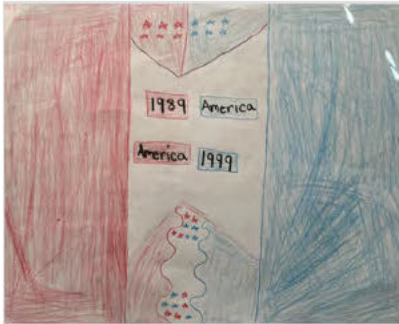
4636

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew this because it represents the common blue violet flower.



4637

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The design of my flag is the United States and back in the day. What my flag has to do with Illinois is the flag and the looks of it and about the color off the flag. What that means to me is my culture, my race and what state I live in.



4638

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Because I like to draw towers.



4639

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Illinois needs a new flag.



4640

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4641

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - First thing on my mind.



4642

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I did this for the state foods and sports.



4643

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The flower is the flower.



4644

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4645

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason I did this is because red cardinals are the state bird and it is a beautiful bird that a lot of people like. And the color of the flag is the state colors.



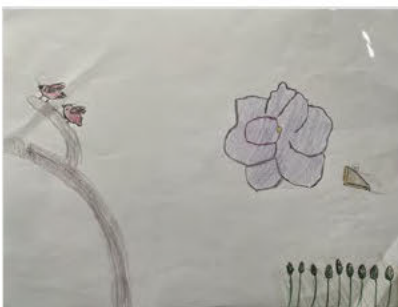
4646

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I did this for fun.



4647

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I put the flower because it's the state flower. I put a pumpkin pie because that's the most popular pie in our state. I put corn because it's a popular food. I put a bird sitting on a log because that's the state bird.



4648

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew this bird because I like birds and red is my favorite color because red resembles the first 13 colonies of America and Illinois.



4649

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The flower represents love and respect for loved ones who have passed away. Roses for example often symbolize eternal love while lilacs represent purity and renewal. The blue area represents Lake Michigan.



4650

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -The Glosser Family arrived in Coles County prior to 1875, making us a Coles County heritage family. I taught art education at Neoga my last 25 years of teaching.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My grandson [REDACTED] and his cousin [REDACTED] both from Mattoon chose these designs from a total of 5 that I designed and drew. [REDACTED] chose the cardinal and violet, while [REDACTED] chose the Cardinal, white oak and violet. My choice was just the white oak. We had a fun.

4651



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - The Glosser Family arrived in Coles County prior to 1875, making us a Coles County heritage family. I taught art education at Neoga my last 25 years of teaching.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My grandson, [REDACTED] and his cousin, [REDACTED] both from Mattoon chose these designs from a total of 5 that I designed and drew. [REDACTED] chose the cardinal and violet, while [REDACTED] chose the Cardinal, white oak and violet. My choice was just the white oak. We had a fun.

4652



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - The Glosser Family arrived in Coles County prior to 1875, making us a Coles County heritage family. I taught art education at Neoga my last 25 years of teaching.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My grandson, [REDACTED] and his cousin, [REDACTED] both from Mattoon chose these designs from a total of 5 that I designed and drew. [REDACTED] chose the cardinal and violet, while [REDACTED] chose the Cardinal, white oak and violet. My choice was just the white oak. We had a fun.

4653



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of Angela, a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew the bird because it is the state bird and I drew stars because everyone is a star and I drew 9 flowers, violets because they are the state flower.



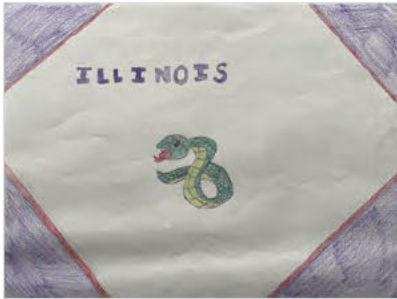
4654

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew this because it is the state bird.



4655

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The violet represents the states flower and the snake represents the states snake. The green and red represents the snakes colors.



4656

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4657

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason for my design is that I really don't like the flag that we have and this is why I made this one. Blue to represent the clear blue sky, yellow to represent the corn, and green to represent the green grass. Thank you if you choose this flag.



4658

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



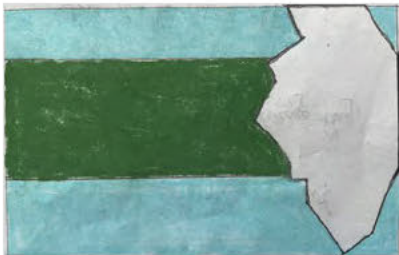
4659

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Soso, Art Teacher at Gallistel Language Academy in Chicago.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Symmetrical - If divided in half, it would be the same on both sides.



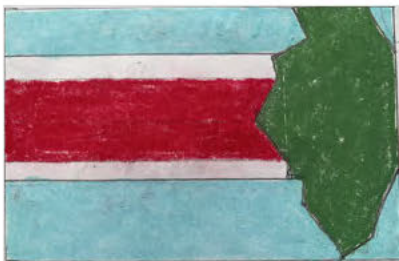
4660

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Lifelong Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Flag colors are the same as the Chicago flag, plus green for nature. Strip depths based off angles in state/Mississippi River border.



4661

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Lifelong Illinois resident

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - Flag colors are the same as the Chicago flag, plus green for nature. Strip depths based off angles in state/Mississippi River border.

4662

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-Im not a resident of IL, but IL is special to me for 4 reasons. 1st I was raised in IN, so I fondly recall IL as a neighbor. 2nd during my 4 homesick years at Air Force Academy, O'Hare was my sacred gateway home for the holidays. 3rd, one of my roommates at the Academy was a proud son of IL & my supervisor at the US Military Academy (West Point) grew up in Chicago so I think about them often. 4th, I once toured the Battle of Vicksburg. The IL Monument moved me for its patriotism.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-3:5.25 ratio design maintains a white background for continuity. 8 symbols represent IL. These symbols are reddish-orange "I" for IL, its indigenous people & its flagship public university; a yellow sun for positivity & life-giving light; when the "I" & sun are one piece the new "I" represents technology, 21 harvest-yellow stars recall Illinois' place in the Union. A state outline, an urban skyline to recall its great cities; artistic forms of Illinois' produce, and the title Illinois

4663

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-Im not a resident of IL, but IL is special to me for 4 reasons. 1st I was raised in IN, so I fondly recall IL as a neighbor. 2nd during my 4 homesick years at Air Force Academy, O'Hare was my sacred gateway home for the holidays. 3rd, one of my roommates at the Academy was a proud son of IL & my supervisor at the US Military Academy (West Point) grew up in Chicago so I think about them often. 4th, I once toured the Battle of Vicksburg. The IL Monument moved me for its patriotism.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-3:5.25 ratio elongated design maintains a white background for continuity. 9 symbols represent IL. The title, IL, in autumn leaf orange, 21 harvest yellow stars recall Illinois' entry in the Union, a state outline, a sun for positivity and life-giving light, a compass, aircraft, & spreading arrows for transpiration hub, an urban skyline for its great cities, and artistic forms of IL produce.

4664

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-Im not a resident of IL, but IL is special to me for 4 reasons. 1st I was raised in IN, so I fondly recall IL as a neighbor. 2nd during my 4 homesick years at Air Force Academy, O'Hare was my sacred gateway home for the holidays. 3rd, one of my roommates at the Academy was a proud son of IL & my supervisor at the US Military Academy (West Point) grew up in Chicago so I think about them often. 4th, I once toured the Battle of Vicksburg. The IL Monument moved me for its patriotism.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-3:5.25 ratio elongated design maintains a white background for continuity. 5 symbols represent IL. The title, IL, in black, 21 harvest yellow stars recall Illinois' entry in the Union, a state outline, a sun for positivity and life-giving light, and a compass for transpiration hub.

4665

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -I'm an art teacher serving the students of IL in the classroom & a lifelong resident of this great state. I'm a big fan of Abe Lincoln, which is convenient because I live in the state & location of one of his legendary political debates with Douglas (Ottawa, IL). I was hoping a high school student would have taken me up on extra credit to submit a design, so instead I decided to roll up my sleeves on this one...



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My design was an integration of a seal & flag design, based on the original IL state flag. The eagle wings are a mixture of stylized flag stripes curvilinearly designed to represent wings. The eagle is surrounded by the silhouette of IL, in rays of light illuminating the crest, contained within a patriotic circle of stars with the state motto. (carried over from the old flag to preserve tradition.)



4666

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-I was born and have only lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-This flag has an eagle to represent our freedom and two stars with 21st behind it representing us being the 21st state to join the US.



4667

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-I was born and have only lived in Illinois my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-This flag has corn, since we are known as the corn state, pumpkins, since Illinois is the pumpkin capital of the world, and white oak and violet since it is our state flower and tree.



4668

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -In the fall of 2004, I lived in Chicago and was studying industrial design at UIC. My great grandfather, Harry James McCartney was an engraver in Chicago. He worked downtown at the Sears, Roebuck and Co where he illustrated and engraved images of lamps, heaters, and other household accessories that were printed on the pages of the Sears mail-order catalogue. His father was James A. McCartney, a civil war veteran from Illinois. He became the IL Attorney General from 1881-1885.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-This concept is inspired by the Anishinaabe medicine wheel and the geography of Illinois. The 21 red + white stripes represent Illinois as the 21st state of this union. The blue field in the upper middle represents Lake Michigan. The thin blue line represents the Illinois river and connection to the Mississippi. The yellow field on the bottom represents state agriculture. The red star represents Chicago, the largest city in the state.

4669

Relationship to Illinois



MMiller -In the fall of 2004, I lived in Chicago and was studying industrial design at UIC. My great grandfather, Harry James McCartney was an engraver in Chicago. He worked downtown at the Sears, Roebuck and Co where he illustrated and engraved images of lamps, heaters, and other household accessories that were printed on the pages of the Sears mail-order catalogue. His father was James A. McCartney, a civil war veteran from Illinois. He became the IL Attorney General from 1881-1885.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The 21 red + white stripes represent Illinois as the 21st state of this union. The blue field with the six-pointed white star represents Chicago. The negative space between the blue and white fields form the shape of an I to represent Illinois.

4670

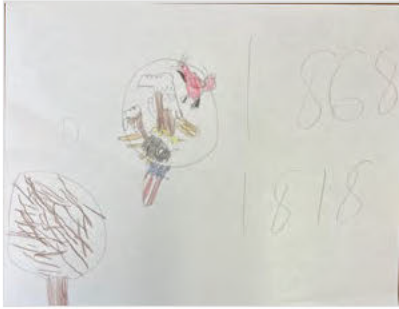
Relationship to Illinois



MMiller -In the fall of 2004, I lived in Chicago and was studying industrial design at UIC. My great grandfather, Harry James McCartney was an engraver in Chicago. He worked downtown at the Sears, Roebuck and Co where he illustrated and engraved images of lamps, heaters, and other household accessories that were printed on the pages of the Sears mail-order catalogue. His father was James A. McCartney, a civil war veteran from Illinois. He became the IL Attorney General from 1881-1885.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-This concept is inspired by the Anishinaabe medicine wheel. The star on left represents IL as the 21st state of the union. The light blue field middle center represents Lake Michigan. The blue line angling down left represents the IL river & the connection to the Mississippi. The 7 blue stripes on right represent the Kankakee, Wabash, Ohio, Mississippi, Missouri, Fox, Rock, Desplaines, Dupage, Green & Chicago rivers. The light yellow field in center middle represents agriculture.



4671

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediated School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4672

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediated School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4673

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediated School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4674

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediated School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4675

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediated School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4676

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediated School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



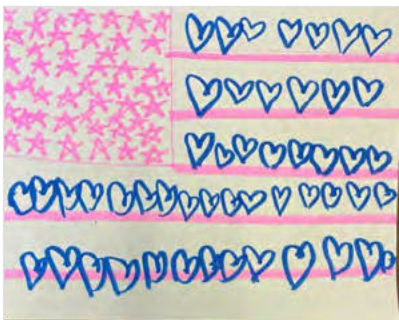
4677

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediated School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4678

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediated School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4679

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediated School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4680

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediated School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4681

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4682

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -



4683

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4684

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4685

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4686

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4687

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4688

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4689

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4690

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4691

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4692

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



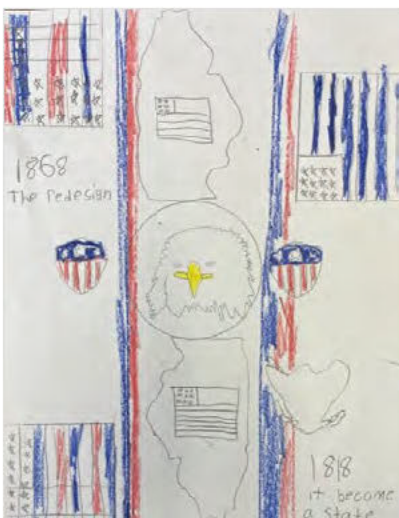
4693

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4694

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4695

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



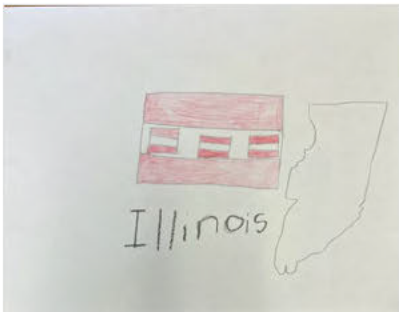
4696

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4697

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



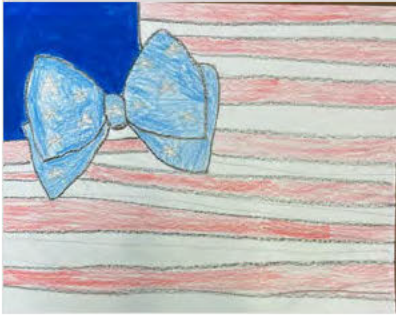
4698

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4699

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



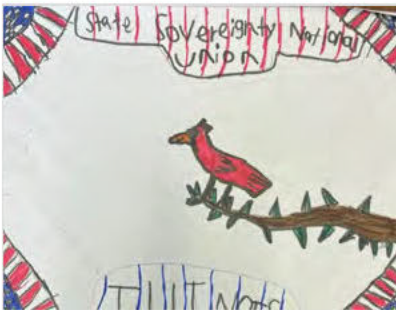
4700

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4701

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



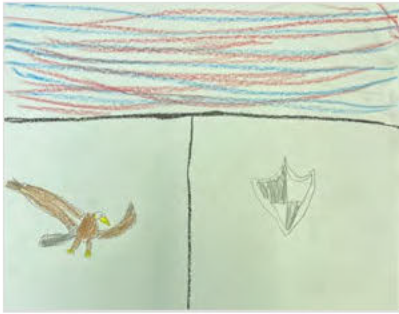
4702

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



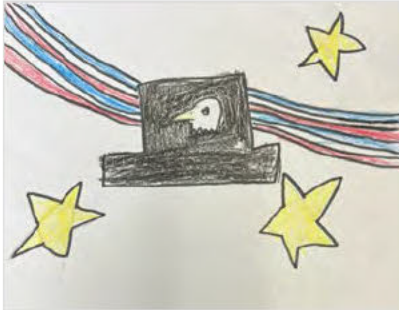
4703

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4704

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



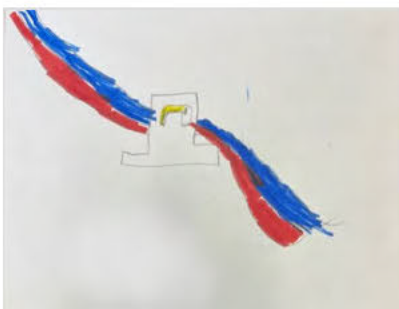
4705

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4706

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4707

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4708

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4709

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4710

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] a student of Ms. Allen's 4th grade class at Meadowbrook Intermediate School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-



4712

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-I apologize for not typing up the descriptions of my flag submissions, because I couldn't find a typing service before the deadline. I hope my penmanship is not difficult to read.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The word Illinois is highlighted in navy blue letters. The stipes are red, white and blue are in alternating colors. The year of our Statehood (1818) is displayed vertically framing the silhouette of the black soldiers from the historical 54th black regiment. The thirteen states are featured around the silhouette of the 54th soldiers honoring the contribution they gave in the Union army during the Civil War.



4713

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-I apologize for not typing up the descriptions of my flag submissions, because I couldn't find a typing service before the deadline. I hope my penmanship is not difficult to read.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-Description of the Flag: The word Illinois is highlighted in navy blue letters. The flares are arranged in a circle in the upper left hand top corner of the flag. The year of the statehood (1818) and the year of the state seal (1868) is vertically bordering the upper section of the State. It also features a drawing of Lake Michigan with the skyline of Chicago.

4714

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-I apologize for not typing up the descriptions of my flag submissions, because I couldn't find a typing service before the deadline. I hope my penmanship is not difficult to read.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-Description of flag: The letters spell out Illinois are highlighted in navy blue ink. Three silhouettes are portrayed. A Native American African American Slave and a French explorer. They are focused in the center of the flag. The year of Illinois Statehood (1818) and the year the state seal was ratified (1868) borders their faces. The thirteen states are in a circle in the left hand corner. They represent the thirteen colonies.



4715

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -My name is [REDACTED] and I was born in Highland Park. I grew up in Pilsen, a town in the heart of Chicago. when I was eight years old my mom moved us to the south suburbs of Chicago to a city called Palos Heights. I now currently attend a school called Palos East Elementary as a fifth grader. I love to live in Illinois because of Chicago style pizza and I love going downtown during Christmas time to have fun.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I drew Abe Lincoln, the 16th President, as my design for the new flag and I also drew other state symbols. Lincoln is important to IL for many reasons. He helped improve our infrastructure by creating railroads, expanding waterways, & the IL and Michigan canal. He also sponsored legislation requiring teachers to pass a qualifying exam before teaching in public schools. Lincoln also helped form the IL Republican party. He is known as the Great Emancipator by essentially freeing slaves.



4716

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - My name is [REDACTED] and I was born in Highland Park. I grew up in Pilsen, a town in the heart of Chicago. when I was eight years old my mom moved us to the south suburbs of Chicago to a city called Palos Heights. I now currently attend a school called Palos East Elementary as a fifth grader. I love to live in Illinois because of Chicago style pizza and I love going downtown during Christmas time to have fun.



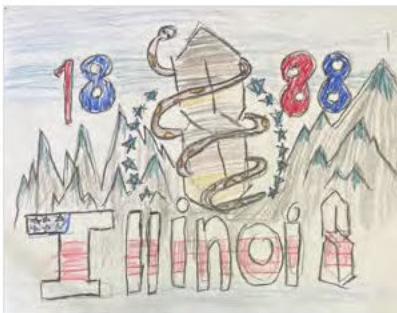
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I drew Jane Addams as an IL state flag symbol because she worked tirelessly for peace. A she helped the poor & immigrants. This is important to me because my great grandmother was an immigrant & she was very poor when she came to the US. Jane Addams was a progressive social reformer & activist. She was the 1st American woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931. She was so kind that she donated the prize money to Hull House & the Womens International League for Peace and Freedom.

4717

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul. I live in Champaign. I'm 10 years old and I used to stay in Rantoul. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I'm describing this flag because I had the hello snake which I love. It reminded me of my snake which I love snakes. And I love the designs for stars in the background which makes it stand out. Also, I love doing the snake around the s. And the mountains because it makes me think of LA with the mountains in the background.

4718



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I am a 5th grader. I have lived in Illinois for 11 years and good people Illinois is a good state the people that are not here are missing out because you have a lot of good schools that teach you math, art, and music, PE.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I designed my flag to have some flowers and grass and said it was the Land of Lincoln. And it has butterflies.

4719



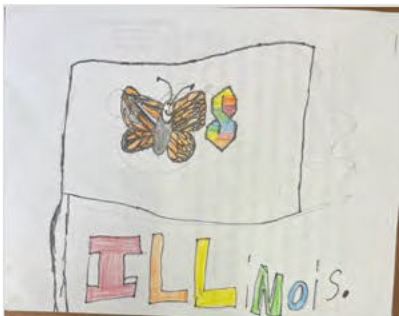
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.My name is [REDACTED] and I live in Rantoul, IL and I have lived here for 11 years. I go to Broadmeadow School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag in the middle there is an "I" because it stands for Illinois, and the violet because it is the state flower. The apple is the state fruit, and my flag says 1818. Illinois became a state in 1818. The fish because I love fish and the sunset because the other flag right now has it, so I put it on mine. Now people can remember the sunset.

4720



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I live in Rantoul. I go to Broadmeadow Elementary School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -About my flag I put a butterfly because it means something special to me. Because of a family member which was special and did a lot for me. I did a snake because snakes are rare and it's all kinds of different snakes in reality. And I did a bobcat paw to celebrate all the team membership and thankfulness for our school bobcats, our one and only bobcat school. And I put a flag in the background because I remember our flag was still there. And a bobcat last.



4721

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I'm 11, I'm in 5th grade and I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I did the flag with all my effort. I hope you like my flag. I'm not from here, I'm from Puerto Rico. I'm so happy thanks bye. Thanks for letting us participate.



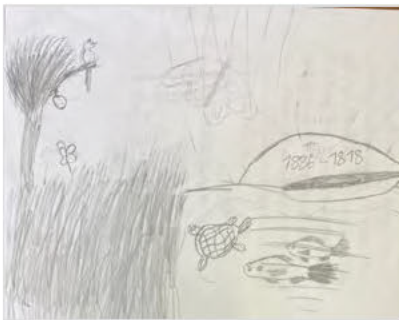
4722

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -On my flag I included the state bird, a cardinal, and the state butterfly, the monarch. And one of Illinois' nicknames is the grassland and I also included when the Illinois flag was first made, 1818.



4723

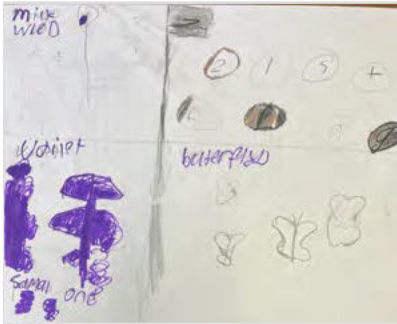
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I'm 10, I live in Rantoul and in fifth grade.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag has a lot of state things including the following: Bluegills, cardinal, lizard, violets, Painted turtle, Goldrush apples. I put the years 1818-1886 because it's when Illinois became a state in the USA. I put the eastern tiger salamander because it's the state symbol along with the rest of the stuff.

4724



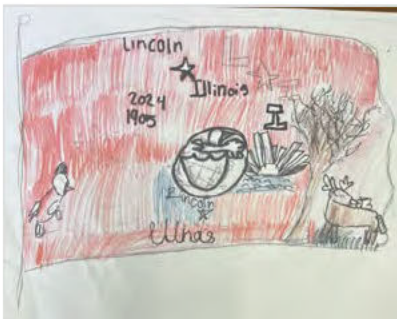
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I'm in fifth grade and have lived in Rantoul for almost 11 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag has butterflies and milkweed. I also added the 21st flag colored it brown and black. I made the violet purple. The reason I added butterflies to my flag is because butterflies remind me of Rantoul and I have lived in Rantoul all my life. I love butterflies and the milkweed just looked nice so I added it.

4725



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I live in Rantoul, Illinois. I'm in 5th grade.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I want to tell you about my flag and why I did that because I love the state and I want to support the flag and the eagle.

4726



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to Broadmeadow Elementary. I live near the old air force base here in Rantoul. I was born in Tennessee but moved to Illinois 5 months ago and I got here on a Greyhound. My flag has people sitting on a bench and a circle with Illinois across it with a big I in the middle with lines and dots and other things around it like a turtle. I think I added a fish, I'm not sure.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Around my flag is space & dogs in space & galaxies & then there is a big circle & there's flowers in it. The pot says, "I heart Illi" & there's a big I in the middle & it has lines & dots around it & squiggles like confetti. In the big I it says Illinois at the top & in the middle it says state flag & at the bottom it says state with a heart beside it. Then, the sky with clouds & out of the circle there's quote & it says smile more & there's the world with people on top of it.

4727

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul. I go to Broadmeadow Elementary. It started when I was born in Chicago. I moved to Rantoul when I was six and I was in home school in kindergarten because of Covid. Once I came to Broadmeadow, I grew a lot and made a lot of friends. I got held back cause my birthday was late!

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I put 5 monarch butterflies because that is the state insect. I put the Chicago Bean and I put a road for bicycles that the state uses. I put grass because we're in the prairie state. Thanks for your time.



4728

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul. I moved to Illinois from Kentucky when I was 6 years old. I am about to turn 10 so I have been here for almost 4 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -At top of my flag I have the state flower which is called a violet. Towards the top, I included a figure that represents the size of IL. At the top there is the goldrush apple. At the top left, I drew the state insect Monarch Butterfly. The middle part of the flag says Illinois because we live in Illinois. The background is red because apparently that's the state's unofficial color. Thank you for letting us participate and for building such a big community for people to be in & live in





4729

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I'm 9 years old and I've lived in Illinois since I was 1 year old.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I want everyone to feel welcome to Illinois so I wanted to make a flag that would make all people feel welcome.



4730

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I have been in Illinois for 9 years and it has always been very interesting to me.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag has an Earth and the people that are on the Earth. I hope you like my flag. Most of my family is from Puerto Rico. Puerto Rico is a beautiful place. While it is beautiful there, I also love my home in Rantoul. I love playing with my friends and family. I even met my best friend! I love being creative.



4731

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -For my flag I just wanted people to know how much I love Illinois. My flag represents how important Illinois is to me. I have been in Illinois for eight years. My flag is for all the people that died fighting for us. Thank you for reading.

4732



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I was born in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag describes some details about Illinois like the football team and the state insect which is a monarch butterfly. My flag also shows the year it was made 2024 and the capital of Illinois Lincoln.

4733



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I am 10 years old. I live in Rantoul and I go to school at Broadmeadow Elementary school. I've moved from Texas to Illinois, me and my mom, dad, and my siblings took a Greyhound bus and it took us 10 hours to get to Illinois. I've lived in Illinois on and off throughout the years. Next year, on May 18-24, I will be going on a cruise to Jamaica. My 2 aunties, 1 grandma, 3 cousins, and it will be so fun.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -In my flag I have represented yellow, orange, blue. These colors remind me of my grandma's favorite colors. One time I went to Chicago for Thanksgiving. My 2 aunties, 2 cousins, and grandma went over to my Uncle Victor's house to have Thanksgiving. We slept at my Uncle Dwight's house. Time was going too fast. I really hope you like my flag.

4734



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [redacted] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul. I am ten years old. I live in Rantoul, Illinois and I go to Broadmeadow.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The reason I chose these colors to represent Illinois and why I picked the following animals bald eagle, eastern milksnake, monarch butterfly, white-tailed deer, cardinal, and the eastern tiger salamander is so Illinois can be represented. The old one does have a better drawing. I still am representing us and Illinois may not be the best, it is still my home. I think Illinois is nice and cool.

4735



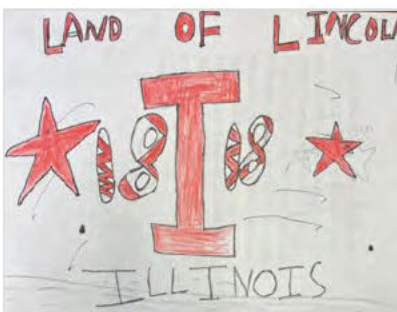
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [redacted] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul. I go to Broadmeadow.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -In my flag I put a Dodge Hellcat in Illinois. I put a sunflower and a basketball player on my flag because I see many people playing basketball and enjoying the sunflowers.

4736



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [redacted] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul. Hello Illinois, I am in the 5th grade. I am ten years old. I live in Rantoul, Illinois and I go to Broadview Elementary School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I made my flag red and white because of the state colors. I put 1818 on my paper because that's when Illinois became a state. I put an I representing the I in Illinois. I put Land of Lincoln on my paper because Abraham Lincoln lived in Illinois.

4737

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I made a flag for Illinois and I will tell you about me. I live in Rantoul, IL and I am in 5th grade at Broadmeadow Elementary. I am 10 years old and my name is Brody. I have lived in Illinois for all of my life. I love Illinois it's pretty cool if you ask me.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I put some fields, some grass, and 21 stars to represent the 21st state and on the sides of the state. It has 1818 and 1868 to represent the year Illinois became a state and barn. I chose to put all that on my flag because I wanted to show the best I could do to show what I see all the time. I wanted to show on the flag the 21 stars and 21st state and the crops to show what Illinois is like. So some people know that the flag is Illinois.

4738

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is lines with a circle and Lincoln Illinois and I got state insect I chose this because I wanted to show my respect Lincoln. I hope you like the flag I designed as much as I do.



4739

Relationship to Illinois

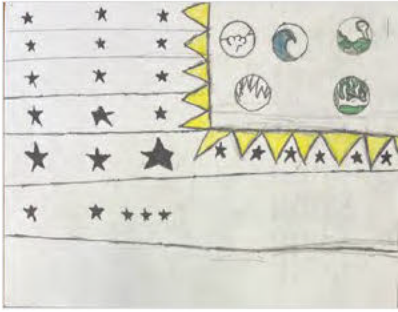
MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is a smiley face that also is supposed to look like a flower garden. I chose this because I love flowers as much as you might love them. I hope you like the flag I designed as much as I do!



4740



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is * (so those circles at the top are like the places of the state things and those stars are to represent America's flag like the stars on the flag but I didn't get to finish but if I did it would look so good but it already does and those triangles are like peace and happiness). I chose this because * (so when we look at the flag we could see all of the things that represent Illinois). I hope you like the flag I designed as much as I do!

4741



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is a violet with a sunset with an American flag with an I on the bottom. I chose this because the violet makes me think of nature and peace, and the sunset is from the old flag and the I is for Illinois. I hope you like the flag I designed as much as I do!

4742

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 11 years. The places I have been to are Rantoul, Argenta, Urbana, Springfield, Chicago, Waterloo and Peoria.



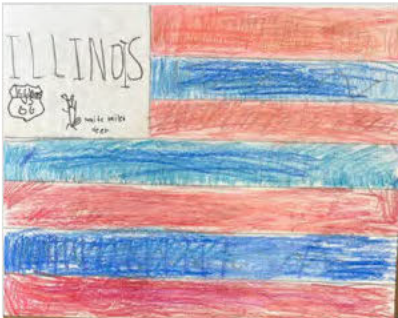
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I have Illinois in middle to represent the state. 18 stars top right & cardinals on both sides. Monarch butterfly on bottom & 2 eagles on bottom left & right holding an olive branch on bottom left and an arrow on right. I chose 18 stars to stand for Illinois as the 18th state. I put 2 cardinals to show the state bird. The reason why I put the 2 eagles is for the national bird & why it's holding the branch & arrow is for peace and war. I hope you like my flag.

4743

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years. I'm in the fifth grade. I'm from Kankakee five, I moved to Rantoul five years ago.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is similar to our state flag. I used the colors red, blue, metallic purple, white, brown & a little bit of pink. My designs are our state animal which is a white-tailed deer & our state route which is route 66. I hope you like the flag I designed as much as I do!

4744

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 2 years.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -On my flag I have 6 stars, I added differing colors and hearts and circle too. I hope you like the flag I designed as much as I do!



4745

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is the blue kind. The green is people. I chose this because Illinois is an amazing state. I hope you like the flag I designed as much as I do!



4746

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is * paint. I chose this because * so people can paint the word. I hope you like the flag I designed as much as I do!



4747

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years so my entire life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag is red, white and blue and it says Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave, Thank You for your Service, and Home of Illinois. It also has some shimmer because I think it looks really good. Hope you like my flag.

4748



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 4 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is outside nature. I chose this because I love the outside nature in Illinois. I love all of the trees and beautiful flowers and also the butterflies. I hope you like the flag I designed as much as I do!

4749



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is a salamander and a doe having a 4th of July picnic. I chose this because the state amphibian is a salamander, the state animal is a deer and the state foods are popcorn, corn and pumpkin pie and I just thought that the salamander and doe having a pretty silly. Thank you ! Hope you like it!!!. I hope you like the flag I designed as much as I do!

4750



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is like a yellow on top, white in the middle, green on the down. The circle part is a purple flower because it is the state flower. I choose these stuff the yellow is a corn theme because we have a lot of corn fields where I live. The white is the clouds of the sky. The green is grass because there is a lot of grass so that is how I made my flag. I hope you choose mine.

4751



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived here for 10 years. I'm 10 and in the 5th grade.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag design is a red bird. It does not look like it, I'm sorry, but I hope you like it!

4752



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I go to school in Rantoul, Illinois. I have lived in Illinois for 10 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I chose my flag design because I have a globe in my room and when I see the stars, I thought of the flag.

4754



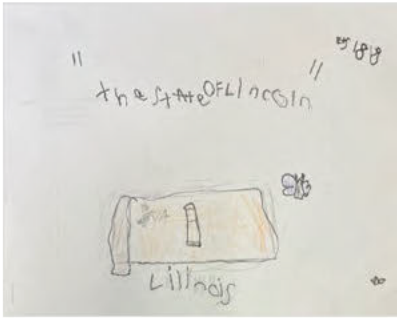
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.I live with my mom in [REDACTED] and I am 9 years old. I live in an apartment with my family. I love my state. I have lived here my whole life. Also I moved a lot around Illinois and I loved going around the area and seeing new things.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I always wanted to have a flag that was mine and everybody could see it and people would like it. I added beautiful colors to my flag that look amazing like orange, blue, yellow, green, red, brown, purple and other beautiful colors. And I love all my teachers and I love spending time with them so I love Illinois a lot. My teacher makes me happy every day. And I hope people vote for my flag because my mom always believed in me.

4755



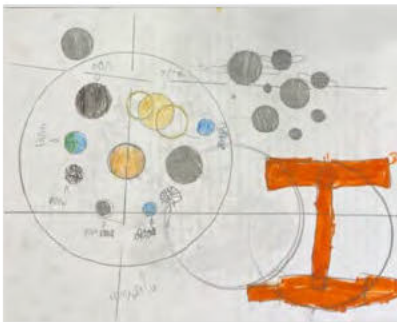
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul. I have lived in Illinois for 9 years.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -People in Illinois are so kind. I put Illinois for people to know the state. I also put a star in the corner for all of the stars that are in the state. I added the year the state was founded. Along with this, I added the state insect and the state flower.

4756



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted by [REDACTED] who is a student at Broadmeadow Elementary School in Rantoul.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I made a flag that represents the milky way. I didn't make all planets because I didn't have much time. I was originally going to make corn, but messed up as you can see. If you see the question mark, it's for a planet that isn't in our solar system. When I grow up I want to go to space and that was my inspiration.

4757



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I put the purple flower of the state because it is beautiful and represents it and the color because it combines with that of the flower.

4758



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I used the flower, violet, because it is the state flower of Illinois. I used the colors green, white and purple. Green represents the trees and nature in Illinois.

4759



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I chose green which describes how much nature we have. I chose violet, red because trees are almost reddish but also represents our extremely rare color. I chose brown to represent our founded discoveries. The deer represents a very rare white-tailed deer. The butterfly represents the common animal seen only once. The tree represents the largest and biggest thing, the grass is healthy and nice. The rocks are very rare in Illinois, pumpkin pie is also extremely rare for how yummy it is.

4760



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The monarch is because it is the state animal. The flower represents the state flower. The blue stands for all the lakes and rivers. The color green stands for all the land. The white color is for the flag to look better.

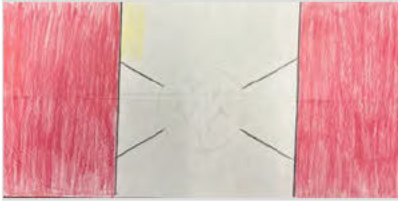
4761

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I put the red, and the yellow on my flag because I feel that it gives it a nice detail, and I put the plant because I think it represents Illinois because here there are many plants in very Indian places.



4762

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The two I's mean the first letter of Illinois. The water means lake Michigan. Monarch butterflies are the state insect. And the cardinal is the state bird. The 4 stars stands for Chicago which is the largest city in Illinois. The tower is the Willis tower that stands for the tallest building in Chicago.



4763

Relationship to Illinois

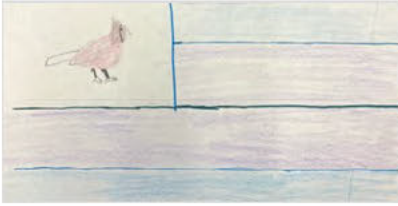
MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -For my flag, I included the cardinal because it's the state animal and represents Illinois beauty. I added a monarch butterfly because it represents hope and transformation, showing how Illinois has got it better through the years showing. I put the butterfly on the bird's beak to show peace. I also added a corn field because Illinois has a lot of them.



4764



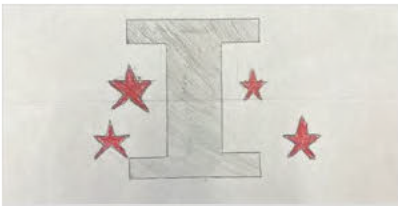
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag has a cardinal because it represents the state of Illinois, and the lines are part of the seal.

4765



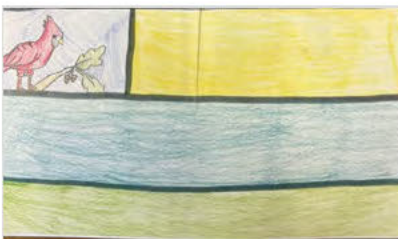
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The colors of the flag are red and gray. I put the stars red because the flag of the United States and because of the Chicago red stars. Also, I put the "I" because of Illinois, and it is gray. It is gray because it looked good.

4766



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag has a northern cardinal bird because in winter the northern bird come in winter and in Illinois the bird is here and the colors on my flag are yellow, green and blue. Blue represents the Mississippi River and the Illinois River and all the rivers and lakes here in Illinois. Lakes are 2,900. And the yellow means corn because up in the north they have a lot of field and in that field they got a lot of corn there and the green means there is a lot of land.

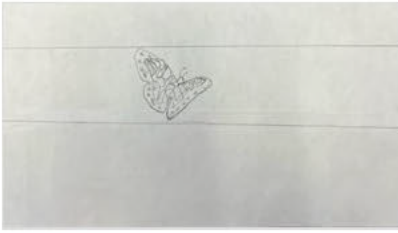
4767

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My colors are red, yellow and blue because they represent the flag of Illinois, and I think the colors look nice. The symbols I picked were the butterfly and the stars because I think the butterfly is a symbol of peace and stars represent the United States of America and the design, I picked the butterfly in the middle and the stars in the side and it looks the American flag and I hope my flag gets picked.



4768

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag is green with a blue cross and the bird, cardinal. Blue signifies freedom and green represents nature. The bird represents Illinois because the cardinal is the state bird.



4769

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The blue represents the rivers and lakes. The bird is the bird of the state. The 21 stars are for being the 21st state.



4770



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag is blue because Illinois has many rivers, so blue symbolizes all the rivers and lakes, and the white stars symbolize the union.

4771



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I decided to use red, blue and white because they also represent the country. I used the cardinal because it's the bird of the state of Illinois. I decided to put the bird standing in the tree and eat a worm and it looked cool.

4772



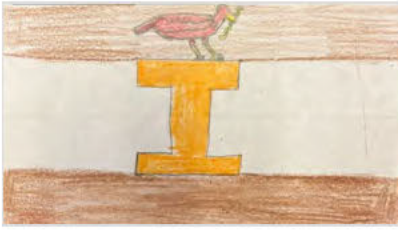
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag has several colors like red, blue and finally green. I put red because of the flag of the United States and blue for the same reason. I used green for nature, and I put an animal like the deer since almost every time I go out, I see one and they are very cute. I feel that colors and the animal I used are perfect to represent Illinois.

4773



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - White, blue, orange, brown, Cardinal bird, violet, pizza, deer, the I for Illinois.

4774



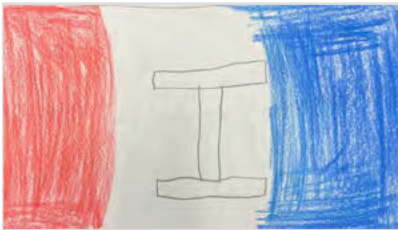
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I used blue because of all the lakes, beaches and rivers in the state. I used white because of the state's liberty. I also added the cardinal because it's the state bird.

4775



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - In the center of my flag, I put a bubbled capitalized I that stands for Illinois. The 3 colors I put on my flag are red, white and blue. Red means valor and bravery, white means purity and innocence and blue stands for vigilance, perseverance and justice.

4776

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I put the butterfly on my flag because it's the state bug. I put purple on the flag because the state flag is purple. On my flag I put orange because the state cake is pumpkin pie, and finally I put that kind of green because the state mineral is that color.



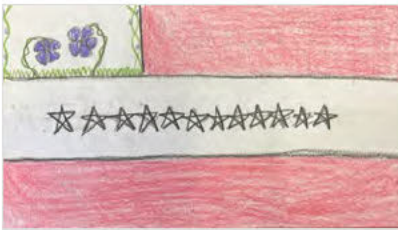
4777

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I created a flag that has the color red, white and purple, with the states flower. I used red, symbolizing bravery and power, because they were brave to become part of the 50 states. I used white because it symbolizes a new beginning, especially for the new flag. They used purple for the state flower, the violet. I also added 17 stars for the 17 house of representatives we have from our state. These were all the elements I used for my flag.



4778

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I only drew 4 stars because I didn't have enough room for more and because it's part of our American flag. I put red in there because it's my favorite color and part of the American flag. I also chose the color blue because it's part of the American flag. Finally, I chose the cardinal bird because we need a new symbol on our flag.



4779

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I did the red, white and blue because of the Chicago flag, then I did the Willis/Sears tower because that is the first thought when you think of Illinois. Then I added a farm because that is what is around when you come deeper into the state you see a lot of farms and open land. Then I added the white-tailed deer because that is the state animal. Then I added trees because you see a lot of those in this state and all around.

4780

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The butterfly has the meaning of many things but more because it is special to me. The colors were some inspired by my flag of my native country Ecuador. Although I think it is the same, it is very important because it is a special flag, and the colors are bright and cheerful colors like the butterfly.

4781

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - When I look at my flag, the tree is the branch of government. Where the Government has 3 branches, the tree has a lot more. The paper has writing on it, is the Constitution of the United States. Then the Red and Blue is for the United States.

4782



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Well, my flag only used one color because it is a color that we all have, a basic. In the middle of the flag goes a butterfly, then my flag's meaning is a mixture of what represents Illinois.

4783



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I included a red bird because it's one of the state animals. I chose the white oak tree, because it's one of the state flowers. The blue represents all the lakes that Illinois has. Green represents all the grass and all the trees. White represents the original color of the old Illinois flag.

4784



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The flag that I drew for Illinois has the colors blue, pink and white. I also put a plant and a butterfly. The plant has two flowers on it. The pink represents trust and loyalty for others. Blue is for your responsibility and represents bravery. The plant is for our nature and the peacefulness in the world. I put the butterfly because it is very pretty and unique. The flower shows love and respect towards others.

4785

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I didn't put color on the flag because it was going to look like Mexico's, the idea was to invent a flag and that's why I put stars on it; they mean, they represent each of them as the one with 8 stars is from Venezuela and the one with 50 stars is from the United States. Flags that have 1, 4 or 6 have their name. There cannot be a flag with 4 stars, they must have different numbers of stars I put 4 stars.

4786

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The colors that I chose are blue, white and yellow. I chose blue to represent Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The white represents the 13 colonies and the yellow represents the fields, the "I" stands for Illinois.

4787

Relationship to Illinois

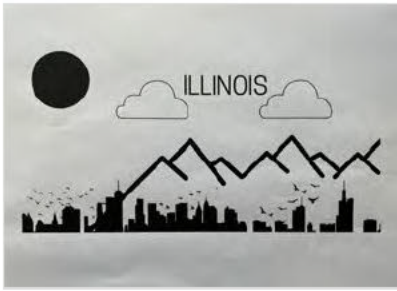
MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The purple represents the violet rose, and I put them all because they are my soccer team's color, and I put blue because the bodies of water or Lake Michigan and yellow represents popcorn, and the black on my flag represents the mineral, fluorite.

4788



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-I made my flag the way it is because I think it looks nice like a scene over a city in Illinois and I feel like it could look good as our new flag. It's related to Illinois because it's a city in Illinois that's where the scene takes place.

4789



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-I am a resident in Rockford, Illinois and I have been living in Illinois for 7 years and I have submitted a flag entry. The flag shows the state bird (Cardinal) in the middle is to show and represent a key bird in Illinois. Chicago could be seen in the back to show the community in Illinois. The orange is to show the vibrance of Illinois. 1818 is the founding date for the state.

4790



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.I live in Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The flag has the bears color because it's our football team and it has 2 stripes and 4 stars. The 4 stars are for the biggest cities in Illinois-Chicago, Aurora, Rockford, and Joliet. And the two stripes are for the 2 parties of republican and democratic.

4791

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.I was born and raised in Rockford, Illinois.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-My flag design includes the American flag, a cardinal, and the words "Land of Lincoln." I had included the state bird because it symbolizes our state bird for Illinois. I wrote, "Land of Lincoln" to represent how Lincoln was the 16th President of the US and was born in Springfield, IL. I included the American flag in the flag to represent how Illinois is just a little part of the US. So the flag represents how we were all just one nation together.



4792

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.I am a citizen of Illinois and have lived in Rockford my whole life.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The flag I created is made up of things representing the state such as the state flower, tree, and bird. I tried to create a simplistic flag with meaning behind it at the same time.





4793

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The outline of the flag is a rectangle so it is easy to manufacture, but the outline inside the flag is the outline of Illinois to show where and what we look like in a map. The bald eagle represents the USA and how we are a part of it. The flowers on the bottom are the Illinois state flower which is a common blue violet. Lastly the banner is simply just an add on to add a subject that adds characteristic.

4794



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-I designed a blue stripe to represent justice, courage, and a desire for peace. White represents purity and freedom. I added a 21-pointed star to represent Illinois being the 21st state to join the Union. The red stripe represents courage and people's willingness to defend their liberty and country. Black represents Illinois' history, determination, and the defeat of the enemy. I put the state name on the red stripe. The seal is in the white because it represents freedom in Illinois.

4795

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-I incorporated the state bird, the cardinal, a prairie with a tree as we are the prairie state. I add red & black lines to draw attention to the flag but also split up the flag into different parts to let each piece have its own space. In the middle and biggest part I added Chicago's skyline as this is the most notable skyline in the state with the year the state was founded above the skyline. Lastly underneath the skyline I added the state to show it is Illinois state flag.

4796

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford. I am a resident of Rockford, Illinois. Illinois to me is a very beautiful state, especially in early fall. What I love about Illinois the most is how big it is. This is because you never run out of forest preserves and restaurants to go to.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-I chose this design because light blue & dark blue resemble peace, freedom & justice which I think Illinois is all about. We were one of the 1st states to not permit slavery. I chose the shape of Illinois because I feel like people could recognize immediately that is the Illinois state flag because of the shape. With the present flag you can't really tell which state it is from. I chose 21 with the star in the middle because Illinois is the 21st state & the star resembles the USA flag.

4797

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.I live in Rockford, IL.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The blue represents the clear skies in Illinois and the yellow orange and green represent corn pumpkins and soybeans which are the top three agricultural practices in Illinois. The suns hex code is #f1821f which represents the year Illinois was founded (1818) and the 21 represents the 21st state which was Illinois.



4798

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.I was born in Illinois and live here. This is home and so I had to include some history.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The yellow & red at the bottom of my flag represent corn, the largest farming industry in our state. The blue represents the sky. The orange circle is the sun. It paints a picture: A cornfield in clear skies. The hex code for the sun's color is #f1821f. I included the number 18 to represent the year Illinois was founded, 1818. I also included the number 21 to represent that we are the 21st state.



4799

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Thurgood Marshall Middle School in Rockford.I was born in Illinois and live here. This is home and so I had to include some history.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The reason for many of my color and design choices came from the Chicago area, one that is very close to me. I was inspired by the color scheme and clean but bold look of the Chicago flag, so I based my colors and the blue bars at the top and bottom from it. For the font, I chose something simple, yet very professional to keep a calm tone. I also added a city's silhouette to further chase the theme of a city in the heart of Illinois.

4800

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag has a lot of things that represent Illinois like blue and green. The blue represents Lake Michigan, The green represents the landscape, and on the corner of the flag there's a cardinal, butterfly, and the plants, which are all Illinois' main things.

4801

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag has blue and some stars. The blue is for Lake Michigan. The stars represent the stars at night when they show.

4802



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My flag represents USA and Mexico for the eagle. My gold stars represent the big states. The details on the flag are the USA flag with a lot of changes. Then the green arched leaves are to represent nature. The eagle represents the life of nature and freedom.

4803



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The reason why I chose the white oak tree was because of the strength and longevity Illinois has, for the stars it symbolizes faith for Illinois and for the color of blue was because of courage and determination they have.

4804



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I used blue to represent the lake or beach. I also used yellow to represent the sun, and for the symbol I did the state flower, violet.

4805



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The colors on my flag design are yellow, blue, green and white. The symbols I chose was the white-tailed deer, which is the state animal. Yellow is the color of the sun, green is for the grass, blue is the sky, and white is for the white-tailed deer.

4806



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The color significance red not only signifies the state bird (Cardinal), but also stands for valor and courage. Yellow represents our strong beliefs and hope for the future. The 13 stars represent the first 13 states. Lastly, the silhouette of a cardinal symbolizes renewal and transformation.

4807



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The flag contains the colors purple, red, green and blue. I chose these colors because the purple represents the state flower, the blue represents the river, the green represents the grasslands and the red represents our state bird, the cardinal. I chose to incorporate designs that I feel represent the natural side of Illinois so I added stripes and stars because we are an American state and for aesthetics.

4808



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller- My flag consists of a few colors which are yellow, violet and red. The yellow represents corn because corn is the number one crop grown in Illinois. Violet represents the Illinois state flower, the violet. And lastly, the red represents the Illinois state bird, the cardinal.

4809



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller- On my flag it shows the state and the state flower and bird.

4810



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller- The significance of the colors I chose is red for the flames of Chicago, white for the original color of the flag and blue for the Mississippi River. I chose the historic route 66 because Illinois is part of history with that route and the leaf represents the famous trees of Illinois.

4811



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The fire explains the fire that burned. The tree explains the forest part of Illinois. The red color is for the fire. The green color ties to the forest.

4812



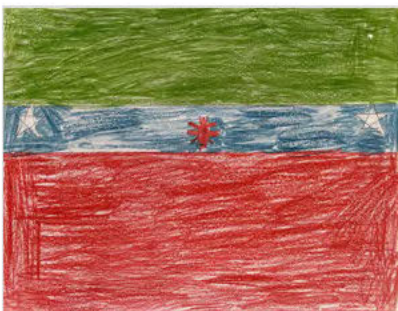
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-For a new Illinois state flag I chose the colors red, blue and yellow. Red is for the state bird (the cardinal), blue is for the state MLB team (Chicago Cubs) and yellow is for the state fruit (gold rush apple). These colors are important because they all represent state symbols. For the symbols I chose "I" for Illinois. I also chose a red bird since it is Illinois state bird and the mascot for ISU.

4813



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-My flag uses the gear for industry. The flag also has two stars, one for Springfield and one for Chicago. The color green is for agriculture and red for industry.

4814



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The three colors used symbolize different things. The grey is the city-life, the green is the Shawnee National Forest, and the red is the state bird (Cardinal). The shapes also mean something. The top hat represents the Land of Lincoln and the ying-yang swirl represents the unity within the state.

4815



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The green is for the Shawnee National Forest, the blue is for the Mississippi River, and the yellow is for the fields of grain.

4816



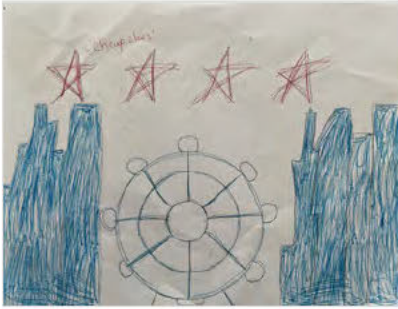
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-I chose this flag because I like the bird on it. The bird is a cardinal which is our state bird. I also made its beak orange because according to google, navy blue and orange are Illinois colors. That brings me into the navy blue border. Navy blue because well it's the states colors.

4817



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-I chose the colors of the Chicago flag and their stars. I chose the colors and stars to symbolize the Windy City. The ferris wheel represents being in the city with the tall architecture of Chicago. I mostly chose to base our flag off of Chicago because it is one of the best cities.

4818



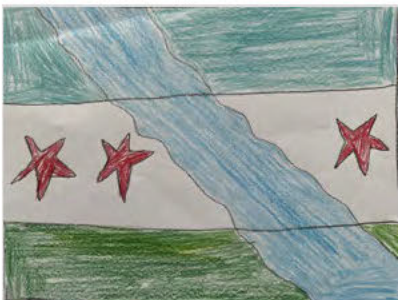
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-There is a pumpkin because Illinois is the number one pumpkin manufacturer in the US.

4819



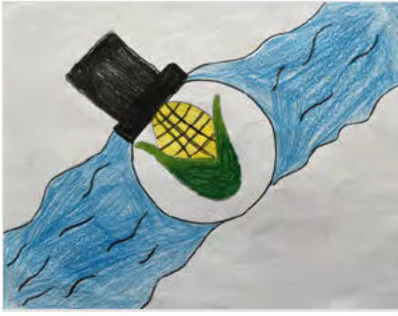
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller-The reason I chose the river is to show the Mississippi River going through Illinois just like how the river is going through the Illinois flag. I didn't have any specific reason to choose the colors and no specific reason to add the stars. I just thought it looked good.

4820



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I chose this flag because Illinois grows a lot of corn. Illinois also uses the Mississippi River a lot. And Illinois is called the Land of Lincoln so that is why I put a hat.

4821



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Carbondale Community High School.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The wiggly blue line across the middle of the flag represents the Mississippi River. The cardinal represents the state bird. It is a very simple design with the cardinal just flying over the river.

4822



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - First, I included violets because they're the state flower. Then I chose the color blue for the background because blue is in the United States flag. Also, I put stars because there are also stars in the flag of the United States.

4823

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I included a cardinal. It's a red bird and I also put a tree branch that is a white oak. The red bird is one of the most popular birds in Illinois, and I chose it because the bird is also the state bird of Illinois. The reason I chose the white oak branch is because it is something that reminds me of Illinois.



4824

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - My design of the Illinois flag has 3 colors: black, white and blue. The black stands for determination, for President Lincoln, fighting for the rights ending slavery and signing the Emancipation Proclamation to free all slaves in the US, keeping determination through all of it, which is also the meaning for the white color, purity. Now onto blue, blue is simple, it stands for the sea, or Lake Michigan. The cardinal stands for the state bird.



4825

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - I included a cardinal bird on my flag because it represents Illinois. I also put 21 stars at night because Illinois is the 21st state. And the green color represents the forests of Illinois. And the flower because it grows in Illinois and is the state flower and the apple because it represents America.



4826

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I chose these colors and drawings because I feel that the colors represent the United States, and I feel that it could also represent our state. The drawing I chose to represent our state is a flower called violet, and I chose it because it is a plant native to here in Illinois.



4827

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I chose purple because I like purple and pink because those colors go well together. I did orange for the butterfly and chose the letter "I" because that represents Illinois. It's the first letter it starts with, and the butterfly is because that's the monarch butterfly of the state and that's why I did the flag like that.



4828

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I added blue because of Lake Michigan. Green because of the grass and nature, and I drew the cardinal because it is the state bird.



4829



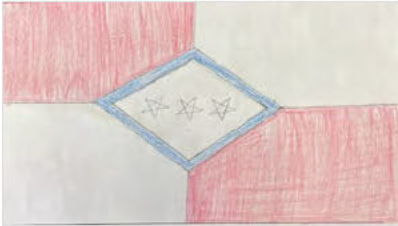
Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The green on my flag represents land. Red represents the red cardinal. Blue represents water. Butterfly is the monarch butterfly. The tree is an oak tree, and the green represents the national parks all over Illinois.

4830



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -I included red and blue because they are colors that represent the US Flag, and I also included stars because they represent the states (there in the flag is not the 50 stars, but the stars in the flag represents the states).

4831



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -My flag has blue, white and red lines to represent that it's part of the USA. Also, it has one star in the middle to show that it is a state. There's a monarch butterfly because it's our state insect, and because it shows there's hope in our state. Lastly there is also our state flower which is violet, which represents peace and tranquility.

4832

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



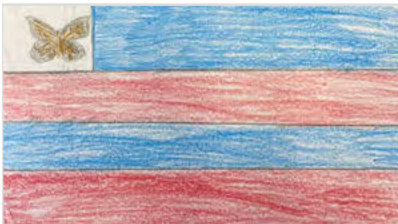
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -For my flag I put the painted turtle because it represents the state animal. I put yellow because it represents popcorn because it is the snack of the state. I also put green because it represents the tree of the state, a white oak. I made my flag like that because it would be fun to have color in the flag and a new animal for it. I think my flag is simple but also a little fun because it has color and because it has a new animal.

4833

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -The colors I had added in the flag are blue and red. The reason that I added these colors is because I really like these colors and because those are the original colors of the flag. The design that I added was a state animal which was the butterfly. Because I also like butterflies a lot, and since they are pretty, I thought it would look nice on the flag. I picked these designs and colors because I thought they would look good together.

4834

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller -Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



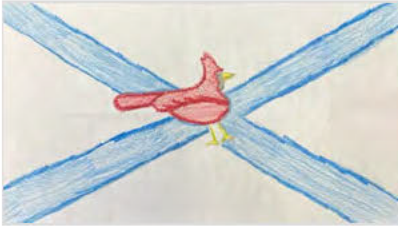
Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Green color because it is the color of grass. Black colors because it looks like night, and I like night. There is also a house.

4835

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - For my flag I picked the colors red, white and blue. Red is for the state bird, the cardinal. Blue is for the Mississippi River and Lake Michigan. White is because I couldn't think of any other color. For my symbol I picked the state bird, cardinal. I picked this because it's something that represents Illinois. For my design I picked the X going across the flag because I felt it looked nice and fit in with the idea I was going for.

4836

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - For my color I chose blue and red because Chicago's flag is red and blue and because Chicago is a main city in Illinois. I chose the northern cardinal as my main state bird because it's Illinois' main bird. I also chose stripes for my flag because it reminds me of a Chicago flag.

4837

Relationship to Illinois

MMiller - Submitted on behalf of [REDACTED] who is a student at Stevenson Middle School in Melrose Park.



Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller - The cardinal on the flag represents the state bird of the state of Illinois. The tree branch on my flag represents the Oak Tree, which is the State Tree of Illinois. The designs I used for my flag were the flag, there are three bars, I used two different colors, which are red and blue. The red color of my flag represents the red stars on the Chicago flag and the blue color on my flag represents the blue on both sides on the Chicago flag and Lake Michigan.

4838



Relationship to Illinois

MMiller-I grew up in Cuyahoga Falls, OH & moved to Champaign when I was 12. I graduated from Champaign Central HS & went to the Art Institute of Chicago. At the institute I started painting hands & years later incorporated ASL into my art. After graduating from the Institute I moved to California, then Colorado, before returning to Champaign for the last 20 years. My best friend owns a flowershop in downtown Champaign. I work there & also have a permanent showcase of my work for the last 30 yrs

Explain the meaning behind your flag

MMiller -Thank you for this opportunity.